



SAIN'T JOHN

***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

***The Epiphany of the
Lord***

January 2, 2022



SAIN'T ANN

MASKS ARE NOW REQUIRED



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**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**

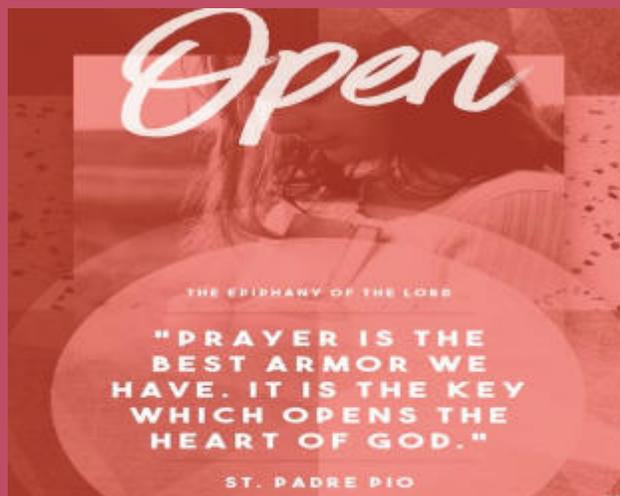
**Saint John the Evangelist
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333
Office –103 N. Main Street,
West Bridgewater**

508-378-4207

E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net

Website: www.stjohneb.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 - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCHARISTIC 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

***Aleternating 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
stjohnebridge@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
617-639-4215

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 1, 2022

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, January 2, 2022

8:30 - Carolyn Ritucci — 1st Anniversary

6:15 - For those who have no one to pray for them

Saturday, January 8, 2022

4:00 - Frank DePaola — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday January 9, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 For those who have no one to pray for them

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 1, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, January 2, 2022

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, January 8, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, January 9, 2022

10:30 - Sean Coakley — 6th Anniversary

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory

Dec 14 - Dec 20, 2021

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$ 375

Mass \$ 2,364

TOTAL \$ 2,739

ST JOHN

Online \$ 1,462

Mail \$ 2,215

Mass \$ 2,190

TOTAL \$ 4,867

TOTAL RESTORATION FUND TO DATE — \$22,567

We are returning to the process of passing the basket during the Offertory.

Some people have expressed concerns as to how the money will be separated for each church.

If you are giving cash and you want it specified for your church, please put it in an envelope with the church name on the envelope. Otherwise money collected at a mass will be designated for that church.

Ex. If you attend the 8:30 at Saint Ann and do not specify that you want your offertory to go to Saint John by using an envelope for your cash, it will be counted as offertory for Saint Ann.

RENOVATION FUNDS WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Webster’s Dictionary defines an “epiphany” as either “an appearance or manifestation, especially of a deity” or “a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something”. Either of these definitions would be appropriate in describing the Feast Day we have before us this Sunday. Today, the Church celebrates the “Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord”.

In this feast, the Magi present themselves before Herod, inquiring about the “newborn king of the Jews” (Matthew 2:2). They wish to pay him homage, as would be fitting for a king. Herod is troubled by this, however (as is all of Jerusalem, because when the king is unhappy everyone is unhappy!). Herod is troubled by this news because he sees Jesus (this “newborn king” (ibid)) as a threat to his power. When we think about it, Herod must be unbelievably insecure of a newborn, king or not. Perhaps Herod recognizes the prophecies as being true, and that this is no ordinary king but the Messiah himself. So Herod sends off the Magi, supposedly to do this king homage. Don’t believe it. Herod doesn’t want this king honored...he wants him dead. If he finds out where Jesus is, then he can eliminate the threat. But the Magi, ultimately, are “tipped off” in a dream and they return home by another route.

In their time with Jesus, they present gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These may seem like strange gifts to bring a baby, but they make perfect sense when that baby is Jesus. Jesus comes to us as priest, prophet and king. The gold is befitting a king, the frankincense is befitting a priest, and the myrrh is befitting a prophet (especially if they give their life, which Jesus will, as myrrh was used to prepare a body for burial). So these gifts, given to Jesus by the Magi, are wholly appropriate to show to us the priestly, prophetic, and kingly nature of Jesus. They would be appropriate for us, as well, as we share in this three-fold manifestation of Christ through our Baptism

May we come to know the life of Jesus as priest, prophet, and king. May we share in these three images of Jesus, embracing them as part of our baptismal call. May we use our gifts, talents, and abilities to further make manifest these gifts, and may we share them with all whom we meet.

Continued Christmas Blessings,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany. When one thinks of an epiphany, what often comes to mind is a lightbulb over a person's head – an idea has come to them, and it's like they are no longer "in the dark" about things. St. Francis had an "epiphanal moment" when he prayed at the Church of San Damiano.

It was in this sacred space that he heard the words, coming from the Cross, "Francis, go and rebuild my church which, as you see, is falling down." That was all he heard. That was all he needed to hear. It took a bit longer, however, to realize that Jesus wasn't asking him to physically rebuild San Damiano as well as a few other rundown churches near Assisi. He did that, of course, but it gradually dawned on him that his vocation was to rebuild the church, the human institution that was perilously close to falling apart.

Today, some 800 years later, the Church is facing yet more crises and is in need of a bit of repair. But amidst all the cries of anguish and anger we've been hearing of late, there are also firm statements of faith and resolve from folks who will not let the betrayals and disappointments distract them from their commitment to Jesus Christ. Yes, the Church is divine, but also very human, and Jesus uses human beings in all their fragility and sinfulness to be the sacrament of his love and mercy in a world that seems to be increasingly unpredictable.

Like Francis kneeling before the cross of San Damiano, we need to keep our gaze focused on Jesus, who beckons us to follow him. May we continue to do so, in moments of joy as well as sorrow, in the darkness as well as the light. May this Feast of the Epiphany bring "light" to the eyes of our hearts, and may this Christmas Season bring the Light of Christ more brightly into our lives...now and forever!

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



THE DEACON'S COLUMN

The Power of Words

Growing up in a household of five boys, certainly there were times when someone was saying something bad about another only to be corrected by my mother with the words, "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all." I am sure that many of you have heard these words at times in your childhood and even said them as adults. There is a profound truth behind this wise saying. Words have power.

In my reflections on the Eucharist, I have been highlighting the elements of the Gathering and Introductory Rites. With this reflection, I turn to the next section of the Mass: the Liturgy of the Word. As an introduction to these series of reflections, I want to focus our attention on the power and nature of words.

We use words to express ourselves. When we are down and blue, we use words to share with others how we are feeling so that we might feel better by talking. When we receive good news, we call others to share our joy. Simply put, we use words to communicate. The nature and power of words is to bring people together around a shared idea.

Why is it offensive to us when someone lies? I suggest that it is because lies violate the nature and power of words. Words are spoken to reveal truth. Whether that truth is universally held or subjectively perceived, we form words to reveal the truth of what we are feeling, thinking, and experiencing. But words do even more than reveal ideas, thoughts, and feelings. We use words to reveal ourselves and share ourselves with others. The best and quickest way to get to know someone is to talk to them. Couples fall in love by sharing their stories and histories. Couples grow in love by making their own story. Families are united when those stories are remembered and re-told to children and grandchildren.

The Words we receive in Scripture and proclaim every Sunday are more than ordinary words—they are God's words spoken in human language. God uses these words to tell us who he is. He shares his Word so that we might know his thoughts and discover his ways. Through the inspired Word of God in the Sacred Scriptures, God reveals the truth about himself. In receiving his Word, we discover the truth of ourselves and are brought into communion with him.

Returning to the proverb at the beginning, God has only good things to say, and he doesn't stop proclaiming the Good News. How do we receive his Word? Are we open to being changed by what we read and hear? Can we be like the Blessed Mother and allow the Word to grow in our hearts and spring forth from us in word and in deed?



A special Christmas wish and thank you from Fr. Stephen Lusiba.

The construction of the classroom block is underway.

Fr. Stephen writes,

“Kindly share in the bulletin the progress of our classroom block under construction. We do appreciate all the donations we receive.”

EPIPHANY



Happy New Year!

January Religious Ed Schedule

January 9th:

Grade 1: Class: 9:25am, Mass: 10:30 at St John’s

Grades 3 and 4: Mass: 10:30am, Class: 11:30am-12:30pm at St John’s

Grade 9: Mass: 6:15pm, Class: 7:00pm-8:30pm at St Ann

Asynchronous work and Mass attendance:

Grades 2, 5,6,7,8 and 10

January 16th: off MLK Holiday

January 23rd:

Grade 1: Class: 9:25am, Mass: 10:30am at St John’s

Grades 3 and 4: Mass: 10:30am, Class: 11:30am-12:30pm at St John’s

Grade 9: Mass: 6:15pm, Class: 7:00pm-8:30pm at St Ann

Asynchronous work and Mass attendance:

Grades 2, 5,6,7,8 and 10

January 30th:

Grade 2: Class: 9:25am, Mass: 10:30am at St John’s

Grades 5 and 6: Mass: 10:30am, Class: 11:30am-12:30pm St John’s

Grades 7 and 8: Class: 5:00pm-6:00pm, Mass 6:15pm at St Ann’s

Grade 10: Mass: 6:15pm, Class: 7:00pm-8:30pm St Ann’s

Asynchronous work and Mass attendance:

Grades 1, 3,4 and 9

For those doing Asynchronous work, your work will be sent via email. If you do not receive the work, please email Nancy Goggin at:

directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

and I will send you the work.

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 Nicolar, 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, Kathy 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.

**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

Winter dates and hours 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 the **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30 am

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

*Monday, January 3 — 1-4 PM
Saturday, January 15 — 10—11:30 AM*

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

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 that 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.

**In-person masses have
Returned!!! To be Live-Streamed as well**

**WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY AT SAINT JOHN
THURSDAY & SATURDAY AT SAINT ANN**

**CONFESSIONS WILL BE AT SAINT ANN'S
BETWEEN 3:00—3:30 OR BY APPOINTMENT WITH
ONE OF THE PRIESTS AVAILABLE.**

ALL ARE WELCOME.

What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

Answer: This a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled? If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).

©LPi

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 are thrilled to have hymn books back in the pews so everyone can read along and SING!!!

Thank you and God Bless.

-The Together in Christ Collaborative Music -Team.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED
TO HELP
CLEAR OUT
&
ORGANIZE
SAINT JOHN'S PARISH HALL**

**PLEASE CALL THE
RECTORY
TO
LET US KNOW
WHEN YOU ARE
AVAILABLE!**

REMEMBER THE 6:15 PM MASS IS LIVE-STREAMED FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE SAFE BUT RECEIVE THE HOLY EUCHARIST.

PLEASE PARK ON THE RECTORY SIDE OF THE PARKING LOT.

***MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING
YOU GOOD HEALTH, SAFETY,
JOY, AND THE ABILITY TO
RECONNECT WITH THOSE YOU
LOVE.***



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