



Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John*

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord



Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM



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. - Mt 2:10-11a

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

©LPI

Church of Saint Ann

**103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater
 02379**

508-586-4880 (24 hour service)

E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net

Website: stannswb.com

**Facebook: St. Ann-WB
 (Account suspended)**

**Collaborative Office Hours are
 9:00-3:00 M-TH**

Saint John the Evangelist

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater
 02333**

**Office – 103 N. Main Street,
 West Bridgewater, 02379**

508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net

Website: www.stjohneb.org

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
 (Account suspended)**

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-Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.
Daily Mass
Thursday & Saturday
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 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

Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
774-533-2002



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 3, 2026

4:00 - Shannon Pisarczyk — Memorial

Sunday, January 4, 2025

9:30 - Joseph Guarino — Memorial

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

Thursday, January 8, 2026

9:00 - Carolyn Ritucci — 5th Anniversary

Saturday, January 10, 2026

4:00 - William Pelton, Jr. — 4th Anniversary

Sunday, January 11 2026

9:30 - John D'Arpino — 7th Anniversary

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

Thursday, January 15, 2026

9:00 - Joseph Ritucci — Memorial

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, January 4, 2025

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

11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, January 11, 2025

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

11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES

Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK Suggested donation \$55

Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK

\$95; or including the mass Suggested donation \$120

**HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS,
FLOWERS \$140 including the MASS, is a
Suggested donation of \$175**

**Payment for the above memorials would be appreciated
TWO weeks in advance, separate from your offertory.**



NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Today our Church celebrates the Feast of Epiphany. Growing up, I always understood this to be the “end of the Christmas Season”. This makes sense for many reasons: it speaks of God’s manifestation to humanity in Christ, it highlights the appearance of the Magi, and it is a bit of a “birthday party” for Jesus. How wrong I was! The Christmas Season actually/officially ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This makes infinitely more sense! After all, our entrance into the Church isn’t marked by our birth but by our baptism. The Baptism of Jesus, about which we will read at tomorrow’s liturgy, begins Jesus’ entrance into “public” ministry. It is His “coming out party” as it were.

Now back to today’s feast. The Feast of the Epiphany, a word which has its roots in the Greek word “epiphaneia”, which means “manifestation”, marks and celebrates the appearance of the Magi upon the scene of Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem. In the classic Greek it was used to mark the appearance of gods. Of course, in our monotheistic tradition, this is adapted to mark the appearance of the One True God in the Person of Jesus Christ. The first reference in Christian literature to the Epiphany would be in the 4th century, which speaks of Jesus’ “birth, that is, His Epiphany” by St. Epiphanius of Salamis in his work “Panarion” (written in 361). It was celebrated on January 6th for the longest time, and currently is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2nd and 8th (thus the short “down time” this year between Christmas and Epiphany).

I can always remember the Feast of the Epiphany for the traditions we held in our household. We would set up the crèche on Christmas Eve (minus the Baby Jesus, of course!), placing Baby Jesus in the manger when we returned home from Midnight Mass. On Christmas Day, the Magi would make their appearance, but not at the manger – they would be placed on the kitchen counter! Over the next week or so, they would slowly be moved from the counter, to the stovetop, to the back of the couch and finally into the manger scene. This, of course, gave each of the five children a chance to “relocate” the Magi. The Magi were three in number (as in the song “We Three Kings”); this, we later came to find out, was probably not entirely accurate. We came to find, through investigation, that there were as many as a dozen “magi”, which is, not coincidentally, related to our modern word, “magic”. The Magi were a class of palace workers who were part magician, part alchemist, part astrologer (thus their knowledge of, and reliance on, stars for guidance). They were “jacks of all trade” (although “jacks” may be a bit of a misnomer, as there may have been some women in their company), relied on by the king (such as Herod) for guidance and direction for many things.

The Feast of the Epiphany gives us an opportunity for a “breather” (albeit a small one this year!) between Christmas and the Baptism of the Lord. May we, like the Magi, come to the manger and reflect on the good things God has provided for us – namely, Christ the Lord.

Have a Blessed (rest of the) Christmas Season,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

January Family Mass

January 11 at the 9:30 Mass at St. Ann.

This Mass will be sponsored by our Monday 3rd grade class. They will be doing the readings and bringing up the gifts. We invite all kids in attendance to join Fr. Paul for the homily and everyone to join us at the back of the church afterwards for snacks.

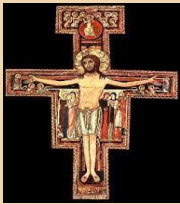
January Teen Mass

1/25 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann
Our next Teen Mass is January 25. At these Masses, we invite our teens to do a reading or bring up the gifts. Fr. Paul also tailors his homily to be relevant to their life and there is contemporary music at the Mass. If your teen is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please email Matt Brady.

Here are some photos from the Christmas Pageant on 12/14.

Thank you to all our cast for a wonderful show!





MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The Feast of the Epiphany, a word which has its roots in the Greek word “epiphaneia”, which means “manifestation”, marks and celebrates the appearance of the Magi upon the scene of Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem. It can certainly be said that throughout the life and ministry of St. Francis of Assisi, Christ manifested Himself many times. I will take a look at two of those times.

One of the first manifestations of Christ for St. Francis was in the Church of San Damiano in Assisi. When Francis was looking for direction and purpose in his newfound life, he gazed upon the Cross of Christ in this little chapel and was told by Christ to “rebuild my house”. At first, as might be anyone’s natural inclination, Francis thought Christ was speaking of the actual, physical structure of the Church of San Damiano, which was in obvious need of repair. As Francis started this rebuilding, he had an “epiphany” himself, when he realized that Christ was speaking of a “spiritual rebuilding” of the Church (Universal), not the structure of the Chapel in Assisi. This “rebuilding” would take many years, most of Francis’ time of ministry really, and much effort. The Church of Francis’ time was in disrepair, rife with scandal and upheaval. Francis worked tirelessly to fulfill Christ’s call for “repair”, responding to this particular “epiphany” made by Christ to Francis.

Another “epiphany” was Francis’ encounter with the leper. In embracing the leper, St. Francis experienced a singular moment of grace. That act of mercy should encourage us all. St. Francis had a fear and abhorrence of lepers. One day, however, he met a man afflicted with leprosy while riding his horse near Assisi. Though the sight of the leper filled him with horror and disgust, Francis got off his horse and kissed the leper. Then the leper put out his hand, hoping to receive something. Out of compassion, Francis gave money to the leper. But when Francis mounted his horse again and looked all around, he could not see the leper anywhere. It dawned on him that it was Jesus whom he had just kissed. Francis believed in divine synchronicity and saw it as essential in his spiritual life. Surely it was synchronous that Francis showed up at the church of San Damiano and then listened to the guidance he received. No doubt it was synchronous for Francis to notice a leper as he traveled the roads of Umbria. Mortified and disgusted by leprosy, Francis may have wished to pass by on the other side of the road. But God’s still, small voice told him to stop, reach out, and embrace the man with leprosy. Both the man with leprosy and Francis were transformed in that moment.

May we experience similar “epiphanies” as St. Francis did. May this Feast of the Epiphany bring about in us a transformation, moving from self-centeredness to Christ-centeredness. May we, like St. Francis, be open to God prompting us to discover who is for us, for the Church, and for the world.

Pax et Bonum,
Fr. Paul, OFS

Fiscal Updates & News (12-16-25)

St. Ann — Offertory	\$2,222
Second Collection	\$ 554
Sacramental Donations + Misc .	<u>\$2,942</u>
	\$5,718

Total	
St John — Offertory	\$1,663
Second Collection	\$5,390
Sacramental Donations + Misc .	<u>\$3,676.88</u>
Total	\$10,344.88

Thank you to those who have been so generous in the Grand Annual Collection and to those who have increased their offertory greatly.

A special thank you to all parishioners who continuously give of their time and talents to make these parishes flourish.

Thank you to all our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters and Collectors for their service of the Masses.

Thank you to all those who supported the children of the parishes in their effort to bring you the story of the birth of Christ in the Christmas Pageant. They did a wonderful job.

May this New Year bring you and your family, health, wealth, and happiness!

New Year's Prayer

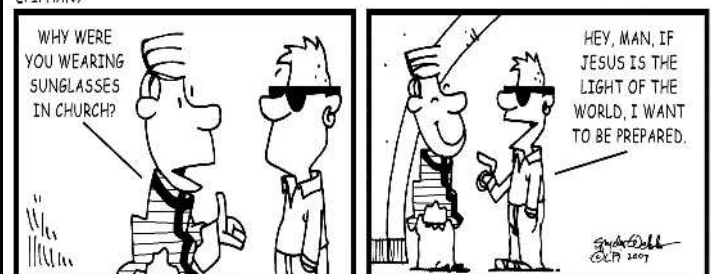
As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains.

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Amen

EPIPHANY



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:



Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, William Neyman, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Brittany Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guisepppe, Anne Bortolotto, Cathy Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy, Mark Neumeier, Johnny MacDonald, Marilyn, John Zenus, Peg & Brendan Fitzgerald, Joseph & Anne Campbell, Ronald Menard, Kim, Claire Sullivan, Kathy Hannafin, Sharon Carson, Diane McDonald, William Burke & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



May your New Year be filled with joy, happiness, good health, prosperity, and lots of fun with family and friends.

May you spend time listening to God and may he answer your prayers.

May 2026 be an amazing year, with homes for the homeless, cures for the sick, peace for fighting nations, prosperity for all, and a return to church for those who have been away.

St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379
To join please call — TINA ANTHONY
508-245-5481

Thank you to all those who continue to make monetary donations to our collection boxes at the door of the church. Without your ongoing generosity to all our fundraising efforts we would not be able to continue to assist our neighbors in their time of need.

Happy New Year

To join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony at: 508-245-5481.

Next meeting: January 13 @ 6:30 p.m.

West Bridgewater Food Pantry
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1
West Bridgewater 02379

WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday each month

TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM

Need: cookies, crackers, pasta, pasta sauce, canned soup, canned vegetables, boxed stuffing
Cash donations also accepted.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
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.**

Our pantry is open on the First and Third Monday of each month. When pantry days fall on a major holiday, the pantry will open on the Tuesday of that week.

First Monday - 3:00 - 5:30 Third Monday - 3:00 - 4:30

January 5 & 19

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. **508-378-3760**

The Pantry is a little low—needed: any food, especially tuna, peanut butter, jelly, canned soups, canned vegetables pasta & pasta sauce, non-sugar cereal, tooth-paste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums., ie \$100

WHITMAN-HANSON ATHLETICS

BENEFIT CONCERT

Ronan Tynan



Whitman-Hanson Regional High School is thrilled to announce that internationally acclaimed Irish tenor Dr. Ronan Tynan will perform a special benefit concert. All proceeds from will support Whitman-Hanson athletics programs

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH AT 7:00 PM
AT WHITMAN-HANSON HIGH SCHOOL



SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS

Benefit Concert to Support Local Student Athletes on February 7, 2026

WHITMAN, MA – When Dr. Ronan Tynan takes the stage at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School on Saturday, February 7th at 7:00 PM, audiences will experience more than exceptional music. They'll witness the living embodiment of determination and resilience – a message that resonates powerfully with the student athletes this benefit concert supports.

When Obstacles Become Opportunities

After losing both legs below the knee at age 20, Tynan didn't retreat – he competed. The young Irishman dominated Paralympic track and field, capturing 18 gold medals and shattering 14 world records. He became the first disabled person admitted to Ireland's National College of Physical Education, then earned his medical degree in orthopedic sports injuries. Only after conquering two careers did Tynan pursue his true passion: singing.

A Voice That's Moved Nations

As a founding member of the Irish Tenors, Tynan's powerful tenor has provided the soundtrack to moments of celebration and mourning for millions. He's sung at state funerals for Presidents Reagan and Bush, offered solace at 9/11 memorial services, and became beloved at the World Series and America's most iconic ballparks. His emotionally charged renditions of "God Bless America" have become the gold standard.

Perhaps most touching was his final gift to President George H.W.

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