



*Together in Christ Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
February 2, 2020
The Presentation of the Lord*



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Simeon blessed them
and said to Mary his
mother, "Behold, this
child is destined for the
fall and rise of many
in Israel." - Lk 2:34a

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

©LPI

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

Church of Saint Ann
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379
508-586-4880
E-Mail: stannswb@comcast.net
Website: stannswb.com
Facebook: St. Ann-WB
Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoe@comcast.net

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday -Thursday

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., See Schedule

**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 p.m., See Schedule

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

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
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. Prep classes are Wednesday before Baptism at St. John'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 WEDNESDAY 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: Donna Roderiques
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

Ben Williams
Nancy Maloney
Margaret Mary Williams

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 1, 2020

4:00 - Patrick Abati — 30th Anniversary

Wendel Harrington — 13th Anniversary

Sunday, February 2, 2020

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, February 8, 2020

4:00 - Ralph Ortenzi — Memorial

Sunday, February 9, 2020

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - Christopher Thompson — 23rd Anniv

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 1, 2020

4:00 - Mary Colitti — Month's Mind

Sunday, February 2, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, February 8, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, February 9, 2020

8:30 - Lyndsey Pellegrino — 13th Anniversary

10:30 - Marc Abbott — 3rd Anniversary



PRAYER TO SAINT BLAISE.



O Blessed **St Blaise**, you received from God the power to protect men from throat diseases and other maladies. ... **St Blaise**, keep my throat free from illness so that I can praise God, my Creator, and thank you, my protector.

Blessing of the throats will be conducted after each Mass on the weekend of February 1st and 2nd.

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Today's celebration, the "Feast of the Presentation of the Lord", has many names. Along with the aforementioned, it is also known as the "Feast of the Purification of Mary", the "Feast of Candlemas" and the "Feast of the Encounter". These various names recall the many aspects of today's feast, and help us to fully understand the impact of today's feast, situated as it is in Ordinary Time.

It is known as the "Feast of the Purification of Mary" due to the fact that this was the first public appearance of Mary since the birth of Jesus. This is not uncommon even in our own tradition, as up until a few years ago, the mother was considered "unchurched" (or "unclean") and unable to join the congregation until such time as she was "ready" to do so. It is known as the "Feast of Candlemas" as this is the day, traditionally, when candles created for church use are blessed. It is known as the "Feast of the Encounter" as it recounts the presence of Anna and Simeon, who "encounter" the Christ Child as He is presented in the temple.

It is, of course, primarily known as the "Feast of the Presentation" due to the fact that in Jewish religious culture, the first-born son of Jewish parents is "presented" in the temple as an "offering" to God. Jesus, being the first (and only) born to Mary and Joseph is presented to Simeon. Simeon, for this part, offers a prayer to God which is to become known as the "Cantic of Simeon". It is this prayer that is offered in the "Liturgy of the Hours" (the prayer of the Church, offered by priests throughout the day) during Night Prayer (the prayer offered by priests at the end of day). As Jesus is presented in the temple, He not only is presented to Anna and Simeon, but to us as well, as "gift" to the People of God. May we "receive" with the excitement with which Anna and Simeon did. May we come to know the Lord as a "gift" to all of us. May we offer ourselves as "gift" to God, ready to receive our "mission" to build up the People of God and God's Holy Church.

Have a blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

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

The Next Second Collection February 23 — Support of the Church Around the World

Financial Blessings		St. Ann's	Budget	St John's	Budget
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS		<i>Thank you to those who gave to the</i>		<i>Grand Annual</i>	
OFFERTORY	1/18—1/24/20	\$2,235	\$3,412	\$ 2,629	\$ 5,333
GRAND ANNUAL THROUGH 1/3/20		\$14,210	\$20,000	\$15,391	\$20,000

SOMETHING TO PRAY ABOUT – FROM THE VOCATIONS MINISTRY

Our ministry is dedicated to trying to create a “culture of vocations” in our Together in Christ Collaborative since we are all called to work on discerning our vocations throughout our lives.

No matter what our age or what we are currently doing with our lives, we should be asking what God is calling us to do next. We all belong to God and everything we have is from God. So we should always be asking Him what He desires us to do with this gift of life he has given us.

The Archdiocese is offering the invitation to young men who are in high school (along with their parents and Father Ring) to attend one of their upcoming St. Andrew Dinners. These are evenings to join in food, conversation, and prayer with Cardinal Sean and seminarians – a night of casual discussion about vocations, prayer, and the call to holiness that God places on each of our hearts. The upcoming dates for these dinners are February 11 and March 31 (6-8PM). Please contact Father Ring (fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net) if you might be interested in learning more about this wonderful opportunity.

Life of our Parishes

St. Vincent de Paul Society — The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an international Catholic voluntary organization dedicated to the sanctification of its members by serving the poor and disadvantaged. St John's St. Vincent de Paul Society provides a good pantry for the community of East Bridgewater in the hall of the church, as well, as helping with emergency needs on a necessary basis. The Pantry meets the first and third Mondays of the month and can always use extra help. Please contact the Food Pantry Hotline if you are interested in becoming a member. 508-378-3760

Fundraising Commission — St. John's and St. Ann's are looking for people willing to serve on the Fundraising Committee. If you are creative, have experience with fundraising (or don't) and know how to bring a community together, please consider joining the Fundraising Committee. Fundraisers are needed to add a cushion to the Parish budget, to meet payroll obligation, to maintain and grow our parish services, and to make needed repairs to the church, rectory, and grounds. The Fundraising Committee needs new ideas. Please consider joining. Call the Rectory if you are interested. 508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880.

Fr. Stephen Lusiba wrote to give an update on the progress of the dormitory in Uganda, St. Benedict's School. All is going well and the windows have been installed. He sends his sincere thanks.



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
West Bridgewater MA 02379

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Healing Our Blindness

The value of stewardship living is difficult to see unless we are experiencing that way of life for ourselves. You can read 100 Everyday Stewardship reflections and go to church every Sunday, but unless you are actively growing in faith and trying to live a life of generous stewardship, you cannot see the power of such a lifestyle. Like most things, we need direct, purposeful experiences to really understand.

I worked in a stewardship parish for over 20 years, but it was only after I started treating all I have as God's, and began to actively offer all I am to Him for His glory, that I really got the message. That doesn't mean I am a perfect steward. Far from it! However, the stress and anxiety that comes with life has greatly diminished because all is in God's hands. I choose to act more generously than before, which provides me with a sense of fulfillment and joy. How I act towards my family, friends, and even people I meet daily has changed. Now I am more mindful of their presence, and I seek to give them a part of me that just might change their day and bring them a little closer to Christ. I am transforming into a disciple who seeks to use all I have been given to transform all that is around me.

It would be a shame to be blind to the important things for an entire life. Today, consider taking a path of life-changing stewardship. Give it all to God. In the midst of all you have been given, you just might find God in a profound way. You may even find the real person God created you to be.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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.

IMPORTANT DATES

**Rosary after Mass on Monday & Tuesday
Adoration — First Friday of the month following
the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at
10:30 a.m.**

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Ann's would love to have some new members! There is work to be done, discussions to have, and decisions to be made and we need more voices and more help.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00p.m. in the Parish Center. If you have been looking for a way to participate, please come to a meeting and see what we are all about! The next one is on Tuesday, February 11th. For more information, contact Chris Baker at 774-240-8095.

Presentation of the Lord

Jesus is the Messiah who institutes a new covenant with his people, but he was raised as a practicing Jew by his devout parents. Jewish tradition held that firstborn male children were to be presented at the Temple and a sacrifice offered 40 days after his birth. Luke's Gospel tells the story of this sacred event. Simeon, a priest of the temple, prophetically greets the Holy Family. "Now let your servant go in peace? my eyes have seen salvation which you have prepared in the site of all peoples." On this feast, we remember that Jesus does not come to abolish the traditions of the past but to fulfill them. His sacrifice on the cross and establishment of the Church lay the foundation for new traditions that continue to bring life to us today!



Knights of Columbus Meat Raffle
Saturday, February 23, 2020
1—3 PM
Saint Ann's Parish Center

Raffles will be held the last weekend of each month.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen DeBenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Scott Dolan, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, Kerri Fabrowski, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, Dennis Green, Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana DeBenedictis, Harry Evans & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

If you are aware of anyone on the prayer list who should be removed, please call the Rectory.

EASTER SEASON IS COMING

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY WHICH IS FEBRUARY 26TH THIS YEAR.

**FOLLOWED BY EASTER
APRIL 12TH**

1. What is Lent?

According to the [Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar \[pdf\]](#):

27. Lent [is a liturgical season that] is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the paschal mystery both catechumens, by the various stages of Christian initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance.

2. Where does the word "Lent" come from?

The Catholic Encyclopedia [notes](#):

The Teutonic word *Lent*, which we employ to denote the forty days' fast preceding Easter, originally meant no more than the spring season. Still it has been used from the Anglo-Saxon period to translate the more significant Latin term *quadagesima* (French *carême*, Italian *quaresima*, Spanish, *cuaresma*), meaning the "forty days", or more literally the "fortieth day". This in turn imitated the Greek name for Lent, *tessarakoste* (fortieth), a word formed on the analogy of Pentecost (*pentekoste*), which last was in use for the Jewish festival before New Testament times.

IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

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

Catholic Womens' Club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month. EXCEPT JAN & FEB.

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

February 2—Presentation of the Lord

In the Gospel, we hear Simeon say to Mary: "... your own soul shall be pierced with a sword—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare."

Your generosity enables the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring hope to parents whose hearts are burdened with worries and concerns.

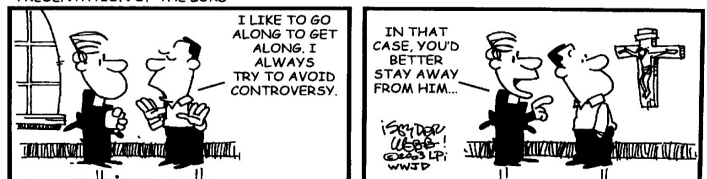
Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

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.

Don't forget the need will be there for January and February !

White tuna, cereal, and soups are always needed.

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



**THERE WILL BE A MAKE UP
TRAINING SESSION TO UPDATE
ALL **LECTORS** AND
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
CONDUCTED BY DEACON JOE**

**January 16, 2020
2 PM @ Saint John's
Please make every effort to attend**

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.



**TEEN MASSES
6:00 PM**

**February 9th
@ St. Ann's**

**March 8th
@ St. John's**

**February 29th — 8:00 - 12:00
9th Grade
Confirmation Retreat
St Ann's Parish Center**