

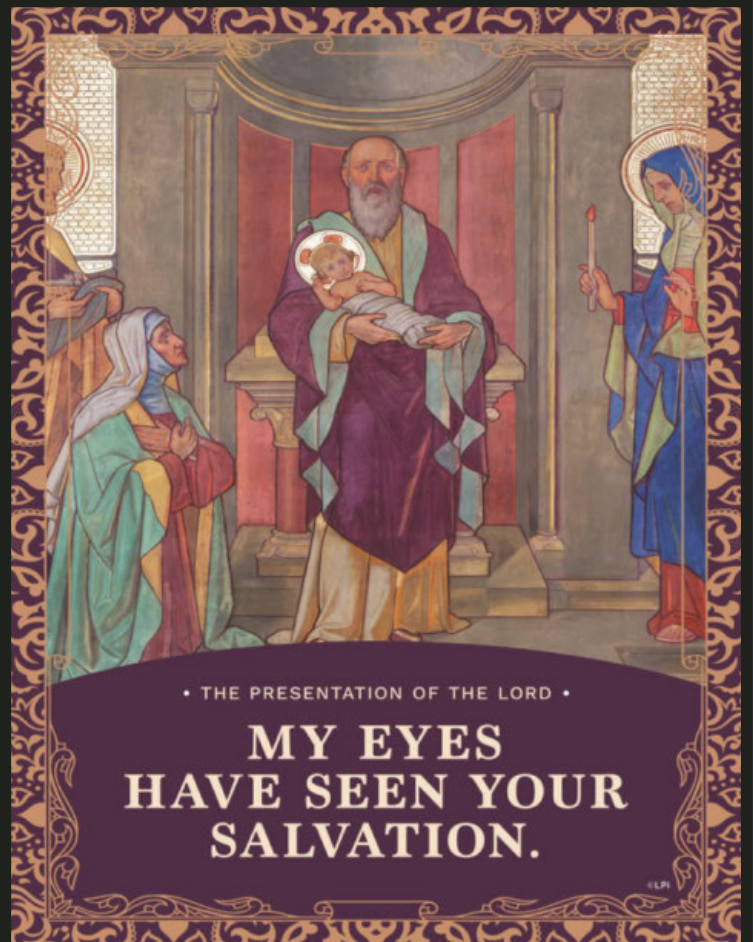
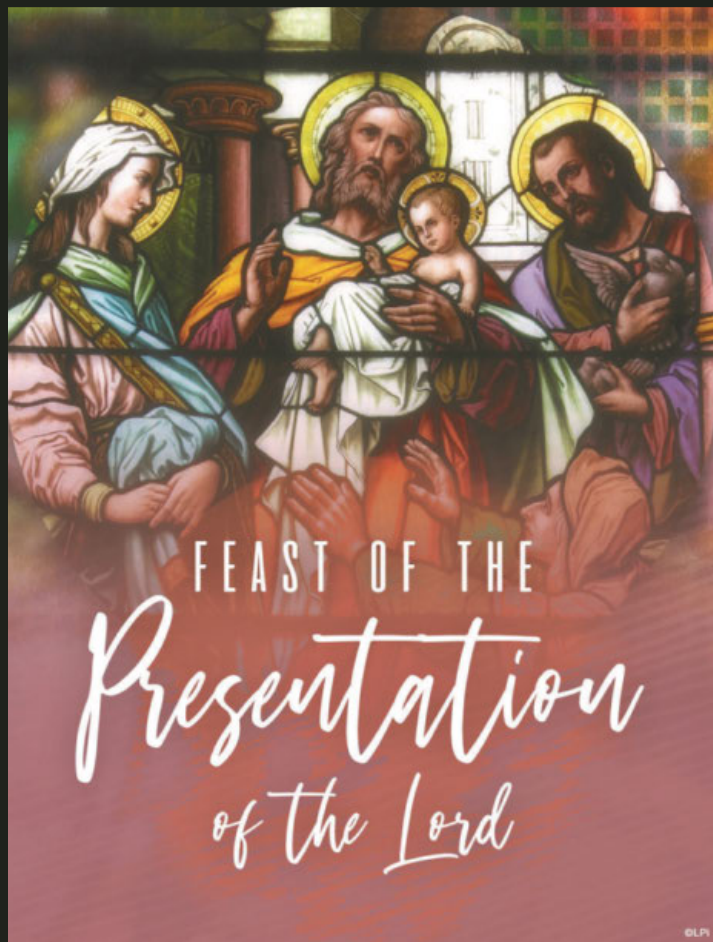


Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 February 2, 2025
 The Presentation
 Of the Lord*



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



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**

**Collaborative Office Hours are
 9:00-3:00
 Monday through Thursday**

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
 Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —
 Paul Ring**

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-Friday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass
Thursday & Saturday
9:00 a.m.

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant:
Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net
508-586-4880

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 JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant:
Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@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

Sunday, February 2, 2025

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, February 9, 2025

- 8:00 - Lyndsey Pellegrino — 18th Anniversary
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 1, 2025

- 4:00 - Christopher Thompson — 28th Anniversary
- Joseph Thompson — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, February 2, 2025

- 9:30 - Jim McLaughlin — Month's Mind

Saturday, February 8, 2025

- 4:00 - Marie Jackson — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, February 9, 2025

- 9:30 - Joseph Sousa — Birthday Remembrance

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



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 his part, offers a prayer to God which is to become known as the "Canticle 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

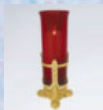
WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

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
\$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS, FLOWERS
\$140 including the MASS, is a Suggested donation of \$165



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

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

February Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is February 2 at the 9:30 Mass at St. John.

We invite our kids to do the readings and bring up the gifts, and Fr. Paul has the kids join him around the altar for the homily. There is also coffee and donuts in the back of the church after Mass.

If your child is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please email Matt Brady.

February Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is February 23 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. Similar to Family Mass, 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.

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

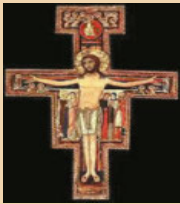
February 17 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team from Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge.

All are welcome, especially those in need of service hours!



Special thanks to Rich Cesarini, our Music Director, and Jack Colombo, his partner at the Southeast School of Music, for donating St. Ann's new piano. Rich and Jack recently had to close the school, so they donated one of its pianos to us. Thank you Rich and Jack!



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. This is a feast which focuses on the life of Christ as it is to come. Of particular note are the prayerful thoughts that Simeon offers to Mary with regards to the “future Christ” and how He is “destined for the rise and fall of many in Israel” (Luke 2:34). One might look at St. Francis in much the same way.

If one were to do a study of St. Francis (as many theologians over the years have), one cannot escape the fact that he is known for his “Incarnational Theology”, that is the view that God chose to come to earth in bodily form and that our bodies are not “accidental” to our nature but “essential” to who we are as creations of God and, thus, “children of God”. St. Francis would likely look at the Feast of the Presentation as an essential element to who Christ was in relation to God’s people since He chose to be one like us in all things, save for sin, so that we might be freed from our sinful nature and reclaim our glorious heritage as the ultimate creation of a loving Father.

In the Presentation of the Lord in the temple, Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple as is custom in the Jewish faith, for each first-born male is presented to God as “gift”. This, in and of itself, is not unusual. What might be rare, however, is the fact that Jesus is not only the first born but is the ONLY son. A couple would be challenged in this day and age, I would think, to “give” their only son to the Lord as Mary and Joseph did. Pietro and Pica (St. Francis’ parents), however, did just that, despite the plans that they had. Destined to follow in his father’s footsteps as a merchant, God had other plans for St. Francis. After a stint as a merchant and soldier, St. Francis found his calling as a servant of God and a leader of men who followed in Francis’ footsteps to follow God.

On this Feast of the Presentation, may we come to offer ourselves as “gift” to the Lord, presenting ourselves to God to be used as God sees fit, putting ourselves and our needs second to that of God and our brothers and sisters.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

**THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION
IS TO**

BUILD UP THE SNOW FUND

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*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

TO

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FOR

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THE 2025 CALENDARS

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, Fred Sprague, Joe Pigeon, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchll, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guisepe, Ann Bortolotto, Elaine Landolfi, Cathy Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



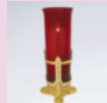
Saint John

The Flowers, hosts, wine & Sanctuary Lamp this week are donated by

Winnie Hutchins

In loving memory of

Jim McLaughlin



A Very Special Thank You to the women of our Parishes who have taken special care of the Poinsettias this year.

There have been so many compliments. Bravo Ladies!

St Ann — Lisa Ames and Maureen Masefield

St John — Janet DiFalco and Alice Hooper

Thank you!!!!

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

Our Saint Vincent de Paul Society has provided support for our neighbors that find themselves in need of a little help with utility, fuel or rent bills. There are many ways we can help our neighbors; if not financially, we can help spiritually. The Society cannot help our neighbors without the generosity of our parishioners. Please consider donating by placing the donations in the SVDP boxes located at each entrance. Please make out any checks to St. Vincent de Paul Society, not St. Ann's Church. To join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony, 508-245-5481

Next meeting: February 11, 2025

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: jelly, rice pilaf, pancake mix, syrup, pasta sauce, baked beans

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

February 6 & February 20

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, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal, toothpaste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.

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

Prayer to St. Joseph

Mini Explanation — For centuries, Christians have relied on the intercessory prayers of Joseph, earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Christ. One particular novena prayer to St. Joseph is often called “the unfailing prayer to St. Joseph.”

Prayer to St. Joseph, Explained For centuries, Christians have relied on the intercessory prayers of Joseph, earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Christ, who was obedient to the will of God in all things.

One particular novena prayer to St. Joseph is often called “the unfailing prayer to St. Joseph.” It is thought to have originated in the first century A.D. and was sent by the pope to Emperor Charles as he went into battle. It is said that those who recite this prayer will not suffer a sudden death and will likewise be protected from drowning, the effects of poison and fire, falling into the hands of the enemy or being overpowered in battle.

For a full text of this prayer, visit ewtn.com/catholicism/library/novena-to-st-joseph-11865.

©LPi

Novena to St. Joseph

Oh St. Joseph whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the Throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh St. Joseph do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your Heavenly power I may offer my Thanksgiving and Homage to the Loving of Fathers.

Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart.

Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head for me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen

Say for nine consecutive mornings for anything you may desire. It has seldom been known to fail.

(Taken from the Treasury of Novenas Page on the World Wide Web, <http://www.nd.edu:80/~mary/>)

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