



*Collaborative  
of  
St. Ann & St. John  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 5, 2017*



**Saint John the Evangelist**  
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Office –103 N. Main Street, West Bridgewater  
508-378-4207 FAX 508-586-3876  
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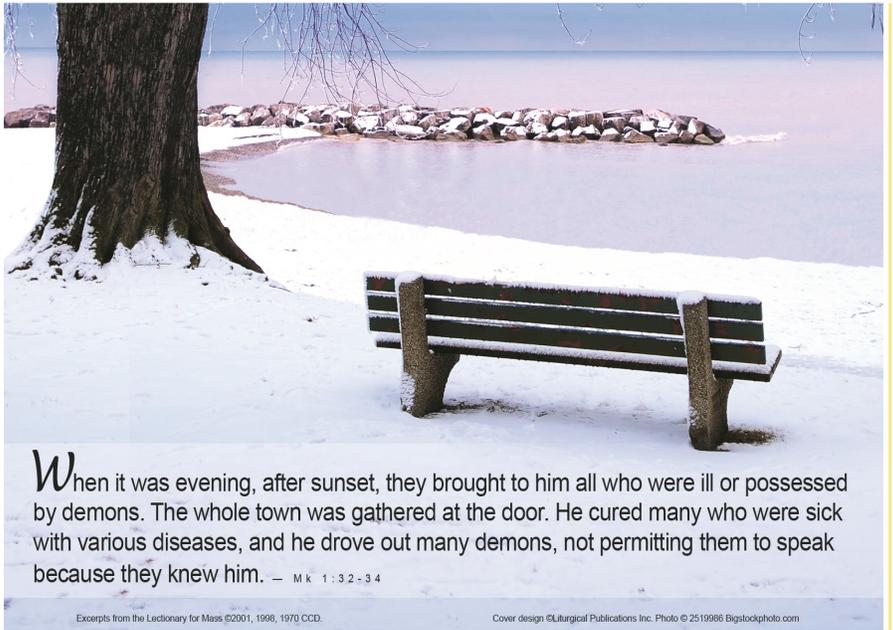
**PASTORAL STAFF**  
**Pastor:**  
Rev. Paul L. Ring  
fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net

**Parochial Vicar**  
Rev. Michael K. Harvey

**Daily Mass Assistant**  
Rev. Donald P. Skerry

**Permanent Deacons:**  
Brendan Fitzgerald  
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Joe Hopgood  
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When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. — M k 1:32-34

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**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. TBA  
Daily Mass, Monday – 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.  
Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri.  
9:00 a.m.

**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 for registration.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or call the Rectory anytime.

**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 - 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of the month 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

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

February 5th — 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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#### Saturday, February 4, 2017

4:00 - Parishioners of St. John

#### Sunday, February 5, 2017

8:00 - Robert E. & Theresa F Mason,  
John F. & Mary J. Doherty — Memorial

10:30 - Christopher Thompson — 20th Anniv.

#### Saturday, February 11, 2017

4:00 - Parishioners of St. John

#### Sunday, February 12, 2017

8:00 - Parishioners of St. John

10:30 - The lonely and forgotten

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### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

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#### Saturday, February 4, 2017

4:00 — Arlene R. DeCoste — 10th Anniversary

#### Sunday, February 5, 2017

8:30 - James (Jim) Baker — 3rd Anniversary

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

#### Saturday, February 11, 2017

4:00 - Jonathan Smith — 3rd Anniversary

#### Sunday, February 12, 2017

8:30 - Lyndsey Pellegrino — 10th Anniversary

10:30 - Valerie Teague — Memorial



My Dear Friends in Christ,

When one does a “Google search” on the phrase “salt and light”, one comes up with over nine million entries. Listings abound, with everything from church ministries to small faith communities to t-shirts emblazoned with a salt shaker and a light bulb! All of them have one thing in common – they trace their origin back to today’s gospel passage in which Jesus uses the images of salt and light to describe how we, as Christians, are to be and act in the world.

Jesus, throughout His earthly ministry, used “earthy” images. This is understandable, given that people of His day were so connected to the earth and its environs. Jesus, in using images such as this, as well as speaking in parables (stories which point to a greater truth), wanted people to strive for a higher reality, one which reaches beyond this world. One may wonder how effective these images and stories are today, since we have become somewhat “disconnected” with our environment, often seeing it merely as a place to “hang our hat” while we go through life. I think it would be a mistake for us to fall into this trap; the earth isn’t just a “stopping point” for us until we get to heaven. Our earthly journey is meant as a learning experience for us so that when we do (God willing) make it to heaven we can know that we helped “build the Kingdom” in our time here. This is why we pray, in the “Our Father”, “thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” It is no accident that we are here on earth, which is why we are called to be “salt and light” to the world.

Salt and light are connected by their dispensation. When one uses too little salt in a meal, it can be bland and tasteless; when one uses too little light, one can stumble and fall. Conversely, when one uses too much salt, the dish being prepared can be “overwhelmed” by the spice; when one uses too much light, one can be blinded and thus rendered unable to move freely. In using both salt and light, a balance must be achieved; in the same way, in our lives of faith balance must be struck so that the message of Holy Scripture and Tradition as found in our Church can be heard, acted upon and lived. If one lives their life of faith sparingly, the message of faith might go unheard; if one is too “heavy-handed”, then people are turned off and the message is similarly lost.

May we have the courage to be “salt and light” to our brothers and sisters. May we be a “light to the nations” and may we “spice up” the world when able and necessary. May we effectively preach the gospel in word and deed by sensing the needs of our brothers and sisters, responding to those needs and thus bring forth the greater glory of God.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

## DEACONS' CORNER



Any person, who is alive, alert and tuned into current events, has felt the effect of a divided and angry society. Anger and fear have led to a loss of hope for the future.

We long for the zest, passion and purpose in life that we might have felt in the past and yearn for today. What as individuals can we do? Saint Francis has the answer.

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy... It is in giving that we receive.”

“O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love with all my soul.”

May God Bless You,

Deacon Brendan

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT ST. ANN'S & ST. JOHN'S

### FR. BILLS & MAIN SPRING

Are you free on Mondays and looking to give back? We're in dire need of volunteers to help us on Mondays to prepare and serve lunch at The Table, our community lunch program at MainSpring House in Brockton. Volunteers must be at least 16 and available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Table provides free, healthy meals low-income and homeless individuals and families six days a week. If you're available to help us on Mondays, please contact our Volunteers Service Coordinator, Mary Ann Mendes, at 617-376-2255 ext. 2237 or at [mmendes@helpfbms.org](mailto:mmendes@helpfbms.org)



**Family Healing from Addictions Prayer Support** will be held at Holy Ghost Parish, 518 Washington St, Whitman from 11am-12noon every first Saturday of the month. Prayer and a faith witness talk — followed by a light lunch, For more information, call Karen at (603) 682-7933

### GETTING PREPARED FOR LENT

#### FASTING:

Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday (March 1, ) and Good Friday (April 14) are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs; but, eating between meals is not permitted. Liquids including milk and fruit juices between meals are allowed.

#### ABSTINENCE:

Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday, March 1 and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be taken at all.



Pancakes with the Pastor is February 12th instead of being the third Sunday of the month due to school vacation. This will be held at St. John's from 9:00—10:00. Eggs, sausage, and pastries will be served.



Every Thursday night  
At 6:30 — St. Ann's Parish Center  
Doors Open at 5:00

TAX REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PARISHIONERS USING THE ENVELOPE OR ON-LINE PROGRAMS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PRINT OUT, PLEASE CALL THE RECORY

#### STAFF

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**Director of Music:** Paul Hoffman  
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**Music Minister:** Erica Wasil



# L.O.O.P. – Life of our Parishes

**Collaborative Parish and Youth Ministry's Mission:** Each one of us is a unique, unrepeatable masterpiece from God. The Parish and Youth Ministry strives to share in each one of our special gifts to create moments we feel Christ among and around us. When we come together as a faith family, we all grow closer to the heart of Christ.

## Contact Us:

**Phone:** 508-838-8490

**Email:** nhenn71@hotmail.com

**Twitter:**  
@ StJohnFYM

**Instagram:**  
nhenn71youthminister

**Snapchat:**  
Nancy Youth Minister

**Voxer:**

Nsmith1454

**Facebook:**

St. John the Evangelist-EB  
St. Ann-VWB

**Website:**

www.stjohnneb.org

www.stannswb.com

**Google Calendars** are available on our websites.

February 3, 2017

## Coffee Chats– Let's Get to Know One Another

From January 23rd - April 1st we would like to visit with you to give you an opportunity to offer ideas, suggests, and concerns about our Parishes, programs and Collaborative faith journey . We are looking for hosts to invite a few friends to get together at your home or in our office. We will bring some goodies with us and a listening ear. No need for a huge time commitment, an hour will be a perfect amount of time to chat. The Rectory at St. Ann 's has a beautiful dining room and sitting room, if meeting there is more convenient. We hope this will be a comfortable way to offer ideas. If there is a question that can't be answered, it will be brought to the right person and a follow-up answer will be given. Our Collaborative is a place for our families to come together in faith, grow in the love of Christ, and do so at each of our own individual paces. Our calendar is open for daytime chats or evening chats- whatever works best for you and your friends. Please contact Nancy Smith at 508-838-8490 or nenn71@hotmail.com to schedule your coffee.



## Common Cathedral Service Opportunity for All Ages

**Sunday, February 12th  
Lunch Making @ 8:00 am  
Boston Common @ 12:00 pm**

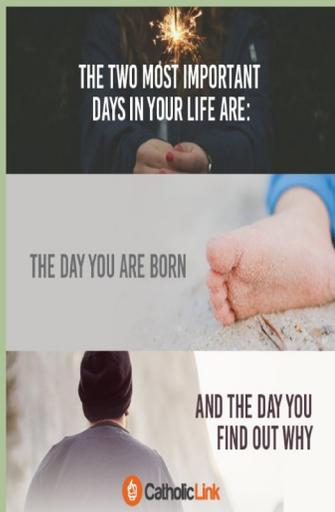
Common Cathedral is an outdoor congregation, housed and un-housed, sharing God's love through community, worship and pastoral care on Boston Common.

This is a wonderful service opportunity that everyone can get involved in!

Here is how you can help:

- \* Donations to make 150 lunches: waters, bread, lunch meats, peanut butter and jelly, fruit, chips, and cookies. Please let us know what you plan to donate by Friday, February 10th.
- \* A Team of Volunteers to make the lunches from 8:00-9:00 am on February 12th. We could have teams making lunches at both St. John and St. Ann based on participation. All ages are welcome to help.
- \* A Team of 20 volunteers—High School Students, College Students, and Adults to serve lunch on Boston Common. We will leave at 11:00 am from St. John. Please register before spots fill up.
- \* We would like to bring a basket of Adult Warm Winter Gloves with us to donate to the Common Cathedral. Donations can be dropped off at Mass in the baskets at the back of the church or at our offices at St. Ann's Rectory.

For planning purposes, please let us know how you are able to help the Service Project be a huge success. nhenn71@hotmail.com or 508-838-8490.



## Our Team

Pastor: Fr. Paul Ring  
Director: Nancy Smith

Adult Leadership Team  
Meets the 4th Thursday of each Month

Youth Leadership Team  
Meets regularly

Fundraising Team (including our auction and golf tournament teams)

Reboot Live Team

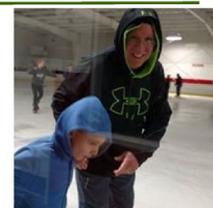


## Family Skate Night– Bridgewater Ice Arena



Sunday, February 19th  
7:00-9:00 pm

\$5.00 per person, including skate rentals  
\$20 family package, including skate rentals for the whole family  
One of our favorite events and all are welcome!  
Snacks will be on-sale



## Timber Lanes Bowling Partnership

We have joined Timber Lanes in Abington Fundraising Program. All you need to do is either bring our flyer with you or show the flyer on your phone for this great deal. (Up to six bowlers, shoes, and two hours of bowling for \$24.95) We will receive half every time you present the flyer! Go to: www.candlepin.com, under 50/50 fundraising, look for our name and click on the link for the flyer.





## The Beauty and Grace of Three



Dear Parishioners,

A year after arriving at St. John, Fr. Paul established the Family and Youth Ministry as a unique way to create programs for all ages, not just for high school students. This Ministry would focus on total parish programs, opportunities for faith formation, service, and prayer, and was charged with being self-funded by the financial team. Our Parishes are very fortunate to be led by a Pastor who faithfully lives out God's call to him to lead His sheep in faith. Fr. Paul greets each and every one of us exactly where we are on our Faith journey, and strives to create opportunities for us all to grow a stronger and more vibrant Faith family where the love of Christ is visible and powerful.

In the first two and half years, the Ministry has undergone a name change, created both an Adult and Youth Advisory Team, designed a logo, and introduced the L.O.O.P. communication tools to keep everyone informed of programs from the Parish and Youth Ministry and events and gather suggestions and ideas from the Parishes. The Parish and Youth Ministry has also expanded to be the first collaborative ministry serving both St. Ann and St. John and in doing so has become the bridge to bring parishioners together to share our resources and our gifts.

As a measurement of success for our programs the question is often asked; "How many attended?" From now on based on the shared experiences, the answer is going to be: "Three!" It is very clear time and time again, that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are actively working within our ministry to bring our Faith Family closer together in the love of Christ.

If you have ever attended an event and looked around in the faces of those near you it doesn't take long to see that "a-ha" moment in someone's eye, that moment when the speaker, guest or musician's witness has touched someone's heart with grace and love. Often it might be in a tear quietly rolling down someone's cheek or a grin from ear to ear. Just a few of these powerful moments include: the indescribable peace that was felt during Adoration when Lift visited our Parish, or the many that waited to be heard in confession because those in attendance at our Parish Mission felt called to receive the grace of the sacrament. Each summer at VBS with close to 100 volunteers we witness the love and friendship that is shared between our littlest of campers starting at age 3 and their teen leader or our elementary campers and their crew leaders, or in those that have lived Cursillo and attend one of our Ultreya Group Sharing meetings where you feel the love and support that lifts you up to tackle life a little stronger until the next meeting. Perhaps you are one of the adults that feel like it's time to learn a little bit more about your faith and have been nourished not just by pancakes but by your Pastor at our Pancakes with the Pastor or with our group as we call on Mary to bring us to the feet of Jesus in the study of "Mary, A Biblical Walk." Maybe you are a parent of a child that has taken part in any one of our events and noticed they come home a little different-a little brighter because they are filled with the amazing grace of the Holy Spirit, or you have been part of one of our service teams that refurbished both the front hallway and side hallway of St. John, built kneelers for the Chapel, finished the clean-up work on the prayer garden, donated lunches to the Main Spring House, donated blankets to the hospital, or worked in the communities of Nashville.

The ministry is flourishing with so many individual moments of grace, love, and friendship, but we still need to be mindful of the charge of being a self-funded ministry in order for these moments to continue. Most businesses take three to five years to break even, and we are humbled and thankful for the financial support in our first two years to meet the self-funded mandate. With your continued financial support we have every confidence that the plan we put in place at the start of year three will deliver financial success. In an effort to keep the focus on the spiritual aspect of the Ministry and not make our Parishioners feel like the Ministry was always asking for money, last summer, we developed a new plan to create two major annual fundraisers: An Auction and a Golf Tournament.

What does a successful auction look like? It's a night when we come together to laugh, to enjoy each other, and create a shared experience as a faith family that brings us closer to the heart of Christ, just like any of our programs or events. In our joy of being together, our adult and our youth leadership teams are looking forward to working with you to also make this night a financial success that brings us closer to or exceeds our self-funded mandate. Remember we have two Parishes to help meet the goals set out by the Auction and the Golf Tournament Teams. Just as we have made our programs and events a success, we know we can reach our financial goals so that the Ministry can continue to grow into year four and beyond.

The following are the needs set forth by the Auction Adult and Youth Teams and we welcome your ideas suggestions and participation:

- A minimum of 150 donated items for our live auction, silent auction, raffles and games (including services, sports items, themed gift baskets)
- A minimum of 200-250 adults enjoying a night out that will include dinner, dancing, entertainment and the auction. If you buy a ticket and bring a friend we will reach our goal!
- 3-6 groups or individuals that would like to entertain our guests throughout the evening with song, dance, magic .A DJ willing to donate his/her services

The Golf Tournament will need a team and with your help and participation we can collect the needed raffle items, a title sponsor, hole sponsors, and ideally 144 players. Please contact Russ at russchapoux@gmail.com to become part of the team!

It has been a privilege to work alongside the adults, youth, staff and guests to create the Collaborative Parish and Youth Ministry. There is no doubt we are fulfilling our Baptismal call to be a witness of Christ for all we meet. We thank-you for in advance for your support in making these two fundraisers a huge success! There is tremendous potential for these fundraisers.

Sincerely,

*The Adult and Youth Leadership Teams of the Collaborative Parish and Youth Ministry*

**Gala Night at the Auction at Halifax CC**  
**Thursday, April 6th from 6:00-10:00 pm**  
**\$30 per ticket/ \$26.00 Senior Citizen**  
**Dinner, Dancing, Entertainment, Auction**



**Golf Tournament**  
**Friday, September 15th**  
**8:00 am Shotgun Start**  
**Riverbend Golf Course, West Bridge-**  
**water**

# PARISH NEWS FOR ST JOHN'S

*St John's Shared Treasure: Goal \$5,900*  
*January 29, 2017 \$4,684*  
*Below Goal -931*  
*Churches in Latin America 919*  
*Grand Annual Total - Jan. 8 \$24,278*

February 5, 2017 — No second Collection  
 February 12, 2017 — Religious Education Collection



## St Vincent de Paul Society At St. John's

Your donations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul help those who are struggling or having a difficult time all year round.

During the cold winter months there are many items we need in the food pantry. Chowder, tomato soup, baked beans, Ramen noodles, hot chocolate, boxes of oatmeal, pancake mix and pancake syrup, SpaghettiOs, ravioli, canned fruit, pasta sides, rice sides, hamburger helper, cans of solid white tuna and tuna helper and if possible coffee.

In today's readings Jesus says, "You are the light of the world." He is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. Please be a "light" to those in need by making a donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

We received many donations of food over the holidays but people are hungry all year. Our pantry shelves are very low and we need your help. It is as simple as picking up an extra box of cereal when you shop for your own family.

Do you know an individual, a family or senior citizen in East Bridgewater who needs food or other assistance? If so please have them call the St. Vincent de Paul **HOTLINE** at **508-378-3760**. All information provided remains confidential.

**Please keep the following in your prayers:** Karen Debenedictis, Arthur Hornstra, Lori Cullen, Mariann Moberg, Dottie Younis, Dave Swartz, Theresa Capachione, Phyllis MacDonald, Carolyn Oliviere, Ginger & John Margesion, Bob McGanty, Harry Hewins, Laurie Murray, Erica O'Sullivan, Bill O'Connell, Colleen Merto, Bill Osborne, Florence Lacey, Eleanor Moynihan, Edie Lincoln, Jim Cassidy, Danny Nichols, Kathy Turke, Katy Skillings, Christopher MacDonald, Jessica Chetwynd, Martha Bundeff, Sharon Farrell, Tom Griffin, Kim LeMoine, Christine Lombardi, Donna Shepard Folloni, Donna Millis, Jean Beaman & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



The Family Ministry will be selling lollipops the weekend of February 11th and 12th after each Mass.

Just in time for Valentine's Day!  
 DELICIOUS!!!!



**FEBRUARY 3RD IS THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE. BLESSING OF THE THROATS WILL BE AFTER EACH MASS THIS WEEKEND.**

### EASTER SCHEDULE OF DATES

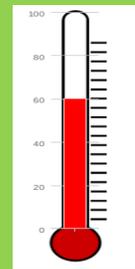


**MARCH 1 — ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**APRIL 13 — HOLY THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 14 — GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 15 — HOLY SATURDAY VIGIL**  
**APRIL 16 — EASTER SUNDAY**

"You are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world." Being Christian is not supposed to be boring! On the contrary, Jesus gave us the mission to bring flavor to the world, and to brighten things up when they seem dark and dismal. What a misunderstanding it is to think that following Christ would ever mean abandoning "the good life" or becoming dull servants of a rigid master. No, we are meant to be like the salt that brings a delicious meal to perfection. We are called to be the light that enables energy and activity. An authentic Christian is filled with life in the truest sense, filled with the One who is "the way and the truth and the life" (Jn 14:6).

### ST. JOHN GRAND ANNUAL PROGRESS

**GOAL \$36,000**  
**CURRENTLY \$24,278**



### A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

**Oh Most Blessed Virgin Mary**, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of marriage and family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and strength to build a new Culture of Life.

# PARISH NEWS FOR ST ANN'S

## St Ann's Weekly Offertory:

January 29, 2017	\$3,635
Latin America	\$ 946

February 5, 2017 — No second collection  
February 12, 2017 — Religious Education Program

### West Bridgewater Food Pantry

The cupboards are empty.

There are many families in need of assistance. Cereal, cookies, cake mix, juice, crackers, & pudding are especially needed. You might want to consider a "gift certificate" from a local grocery store. The Food Pantry is located at the Spring St. School and is open the first & third Wednesday of the month from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

Help is needed! Please contact Calvin Grey at 508-559-6569 if you are able to volunteer!



**FEBRUARY 3RD IS THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE. BLESSING OF THE THROATS WILL BE AFTER EACH MASS THIS WEEKEND.**



### 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](mailto: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.



### ST. VINCENT de PAUL AT ST ANN'S

St. Vincent de Paul Conference wishes to thank those that are dropping their contributions into the white boxes at the front and side entrances of the church. These boxes are under lock and key and are emptied quite frequently by a designated member of the conference. The monies collected are deposited into the conference's checking account and used to assist those families who ask for help from the St. Vincent de Paul Society.