



Together in Christ Collaborative

February 28, 2021

The Second Sunday Of Lent



St. John the Evangelist

St. Ann



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. - Mk 9:7-8

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

ILPI

**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
Currently we are working from home.**

**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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

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

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice
In the Chapel
Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. All baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required. 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
stjohnnebridge@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: Stephanie Gaboury
directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com
508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 27, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, February 28, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, March 6, 2020

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, March 7, 2020

8:30 - James (Jim) Baker — 7th Anniversary

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 27, 2020

5:30 - Michael Bonner — 6 Month Anniversary

Sunday, February 28, 2020

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, March 6, 2020

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, March 7, 2020

10:30 - Paul Luddy — 37th Anniversary

Mary Luddy Ahern — 1st Anniversary

**THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST
COLLABORATIVE
NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!**

**Our financial situation is getting to a crisis level.
The pandemic has taken a very real toll in so many
ways.**

Weekly Offertory

Feb 10 - Feb 16, 2021

ST JOHN

Online \$ 674

Mail \$1,085

Mass \$1,330

TOTAL \$3,089

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$ 700

Mass \$1,246

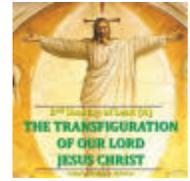
TOTAL \$1,946

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.



My Dear Friends in Christ,



I’ve never been a firm believer that God does things to “test” us. Today’s readings, however, seem to be an “exception to the rule”. Our reading from the Old Testament speaks of the encounter Abraham has with God in relation to his son, Isaac. God appears to be testing Abraham to see to what lengths he will go in showing his love and fidelity to God. In the end, however, it is less about the test than it is about the fidelity. God ultimately rewards Abraham for going so far as to be willing to sacrifice his only son (sound familiar?), promising to make his descendants as “countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore” (Gn 22:17). Such are the lengths that we are to go in showing our faithfulness to God.

In our second reading, we are reminded that in sacrificing His Son for us, God shows us that He will give us all the things we need to grow in faith, hope and love. It may seem at times, however, that we are “tested” in this exchange (God giving us life, we giving ourselves) by trusting that God has the “big picture” in His mind and heart, keeping us safe from charges and condemnation from the world. We are to always realize that we owe the world nothing – it is God to whom we owe everything, including our very lives.

In the gospel passage from Mark, we are given the encounter of the Transfiguration on Mt. Tabor that Jesus has, first with His disciples and then Elijah and Moses. The disciples that are with Jesus are given charge “not to relate what they had seen to anyone” (Mk 9:9) until the Resurrection. What a test this is! How could they not tell anyone and everyone of what they had seen, heard and felt? How challenging it must have been for them! When we reflect on this encounter, we must ask how it is that we encounter Jesus. Do we see Him as “transfigured” (as the disciples did that day), or do we take Him for granted thinking that we can always “have” Him? The challenge in the Transfiguration, for the disciples and for us, is to see the mission of Christ without losing sight of the power and majesty of Christ. Jesus came as the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets (this is the reason for the presence of Moses (Law) and Elijah (Prophets)).

May we always know that when we feel “tested” by God, that there is a good reason for this. We should do our best to see the “big picture” that God has in mind for us and for the world. We must never lose sight that Jesus constantly reveals Himself to us, in Word and deed, pointing the way to the Kingdom. May the Christ we encounter today be the Christ we encounter everyday, in His promise, power and peace.

A Blessed Lent to you all,

Fr. Paul

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan Maclsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Dennis Green, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen Daly, Baby Abigail, Bryan Senn, Rene Pearson, & 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

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

The Food Pantry has changed its hours for the winter.

*Monday, Mar. 1 - 1:00—4:00
Saturday, Mar. 20 - 10:00—11:30*

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above.

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

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc. are always great additions to the shelves.

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT



WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

A lot of us are feeling small these days. Insignificant, inconsequential in the face of the pandemic and overwhelming economic distress. And then comes Lent, and this year it somehow feels both irrelevant and trivial to consider doing without chocolate for 40 days.

Fasting is one of the three cornerstones of the season, but we're all exhausted by a year of giving up so much. Yet it's possible that we're partially at fault for that exhaustion, because even as we lost incomes, fellowship, access to the myriad things that were so important to us, we've also added in too much. Too much stress. Too much obsession with the news. Too many hours on

Pope Francis this year invites us to remember why we're here. "Fasting," he writes, "involves being freed from all that weighs us down—like consumerism or an excess of information, whether true or false—in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet 'full of grace and truth': the Son of God our Savior."

Instead of over-indulging in all the negatives that we've come to ingest as easily as once upon a time we indulged in chocolates, the pope has a different suggestion: "In embracing the experience of poverty," he says, "those who fast make themselves poor with the poor and accumulate the treasure of a love both received and shared."

There are so *many* opportunities this year to "embrace the experience of poverty," as more and more families have gone without, are subsisting on unemployment and food banks and soup kitchens. This year more than any year, we are called to

discoverhope-paulinemediamedia-com@getresponse-mail.com; on behalf of; Sr. Kathryn | Pauline Books & Media <discoverhope@paulinemediamedia.com>

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com
P O Box 47 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.

This Week in Ministry

3.1.21-3.7.21

“Do you want to do something beautiful for God? There is a person who needs you. This is your chance.”

–Do Something Beautiful for God: The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa, March 7th

Maybe the person who needs you today is a friend or family member, and you know them well enough to know just how to help them with a problem. Or maybe it's a stranger who needs something special to make up for a really tough day. Whether you know the person well or have never met them before, you can make a difference.

Challenge of the Week: Do a random act of kindness for someone this week. Do the dishes or laundry without being asked; pay for someone's coffee in line at Dunkin' Donuts; write a 'just because' note to a friend; shovel your neighbor's driveway; pray for someone who has been mean to you. Whether you keep your act of kindness a secret or not, focus on making someone else's day better!

“Not by bread alone”

Recipe Contest:

Last chance to send in submissions!

Do you love to cozy up in the kitchen on a chilly blustery day?

It's time to share those talents with our very first Recipe Contest! No need to be an expert chef;

whether it's a simple snack, a tasty dessert, or a well-honed family favorite, all entries are welcome! There will be prizes in various categories!



Send your recipe by Friday, March 5th to directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

Lenten Self-Check



How has your Lent been going? Have you been following through with your Lenten sacrifice? Have you felt closer to God? Whether you've struggled or succeeded in your goals so far, remember that every day is a new chance to start fresh!

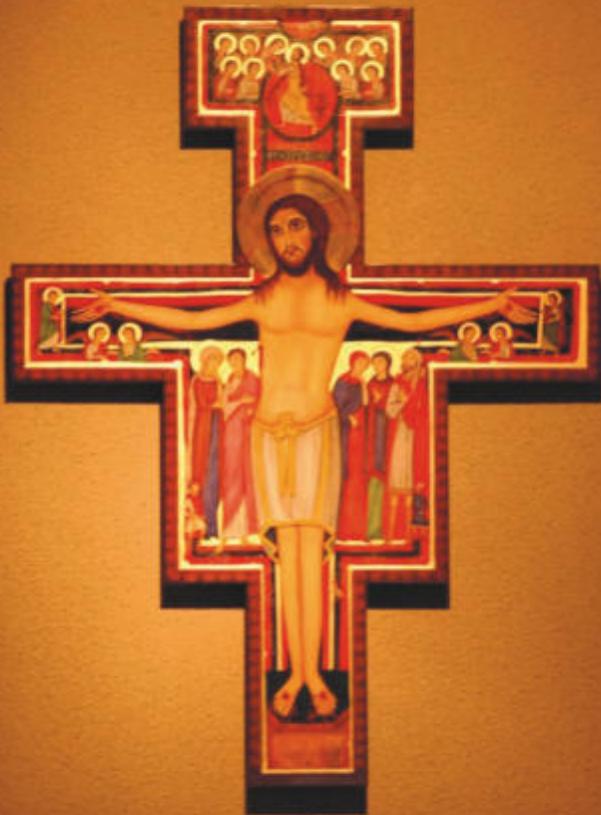
Check out [Soul-Nourishing Practices for Lent](#) and [Lenten Checklist for Families](#) to refocus and reexamine your priorities.

Stephanie Gaboury
Director of Ministries, T.I.C. Collaborative

directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only; Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith” (James 1:22; 2:18)

The Lenten Journey



DEVOTION TO ST. ANTHONY | Lent 2021

FAST, PRAY, GIVE...
A FRANCISCAN LENTEN JOURNEY

"If anyone would come after Me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

MATTHEW 16:24

PRAYER FOR LENT

Loving God, the love of Your Son, Jesus, led Him to accept the suffering of the cross, that we, His sisters and brothers, may have new life.

During this Lenten season, bless our journey and change our lives through the disciplines of fasting, praying, and giving.

Help us to become self-giving and to embrace the needs of all people.

May we all share the **joy of Easter!**
Grant this through Christ, **our Lord,**

AMEN

Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi who embraced the cross, guide our Lenten journey.

Saint Anthony of Padua, faithful follower of Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us.

Br. John Maganzini, OFM



St. Anthony Shrine
www.stanthonyshrine.org

1st SUNDAY OF LENT



Just a Second

Adam: What is a million years like to you?
God: Like one second.
Adam: What is a million dollars like to you?
God: Like one penny.
Adam: Can I have a penny?
God: Sure, just a second.

©LPi



Jeanne Eleanor Andrews Downey passed away peacefully in her home on Saturday, January 23, 2021. She was the eldest daughter of the late Geraldine Gammons and Augustus Andrews of Brockton. She will be missed by her 9 brothers and sisters and her 5 children and 11 grandchildren who were the joy of her life.

Jeanne was the anchor of the family who was passionate about helping her family stay united. She took great joy in her grandchildren and handing down her passion for sewing, knitting, quilting and music. Jeanne relished in sharing the important moments in her family's lives, often passing these milestones on her deck overlooking the ocean. She enjoyed researching her family history and sharing this knowledge. She would say, "This is who we are, this is where we are from."

Jeanne was an avid reader and enjoyed historical fiction. Jeanne also had a beautiful voice and could be found singing in the choir at St. Bonaventure's or with the Plymouth Festival Chorus. Jeanne also established the Children's Choir at St. John's and Directed that for a number of years. She was a huge help to Fr. Corcoran and the parish and will be remembered fondly.

May Jeanne rest in peace.

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane Tracy Earl Welliver

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. "We're ready, God!" our hearts cry out. "Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!"

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they've joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It's not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It's the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there's that nagging voice in our minds saying: *go ahead, God doesn't really mind.*

It's a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn't you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried "Ready!" when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, "Ready!" when we hear the call of God? MTS

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