



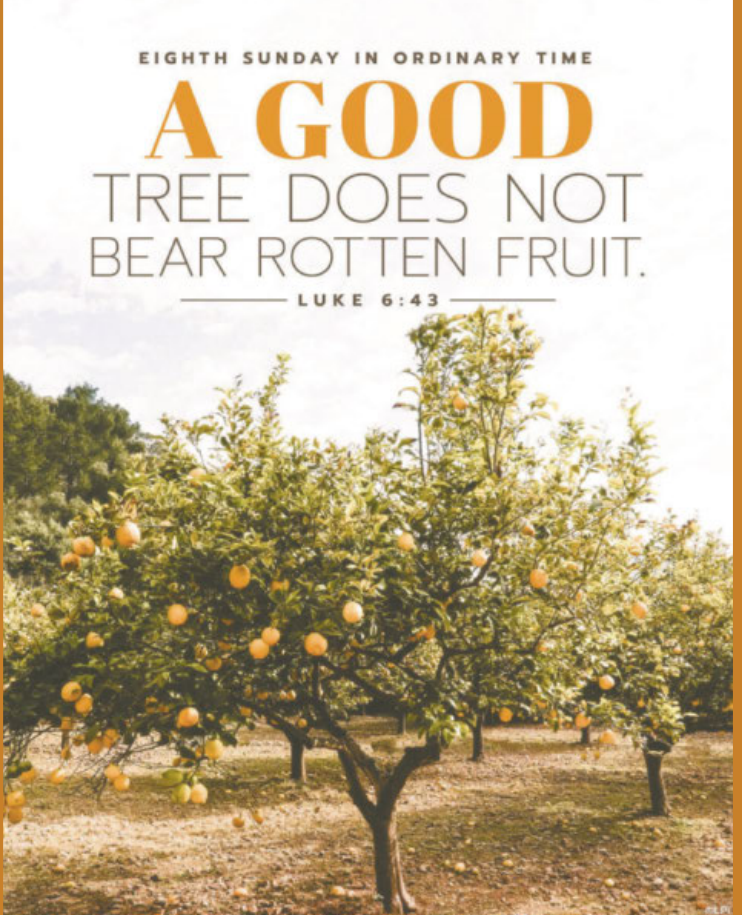
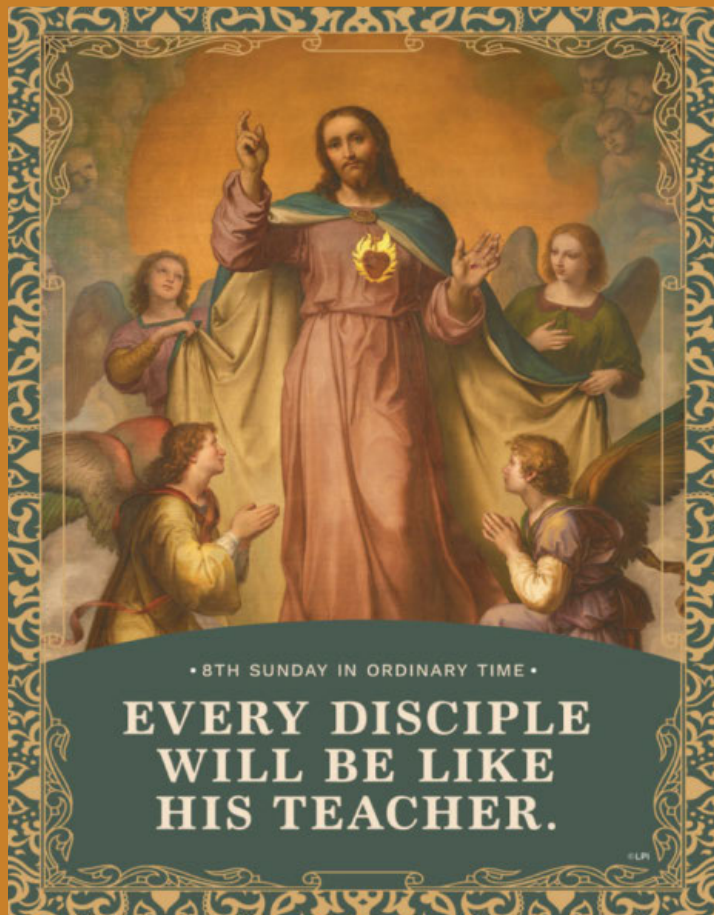
Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 2, 2025
 The Eighth Sunday
 In Ordinary Time*



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

2025 Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope



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.

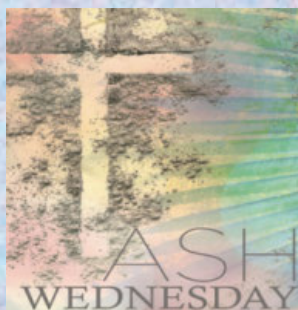
St John's

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, March 2, 2025

- 8:00 - Jace Joshua Russell — 1st Anniversary
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, March 9, 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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 1, 2025

- 4:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, March 2, 2025

- 9:30 - Families of the Collaborative

Saturday, March 8, 2025

- 4:00 - **Sunday, February 23, 2025**
Jose & Maria Pereira & Son & Grandson — Memorial
- 9:30 - Jim McLaughlin & Jimmy McLaughlin — Memorial

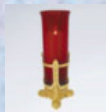
WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

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.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



My Dear Friends in Christ,

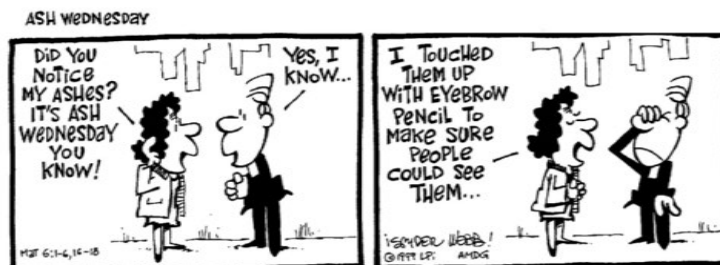
Back when I was in seminary, I would help out with retreats run by the Office for Young Adults. During these retreats, we would engage in what were called “trust walks”. We would pair up those on retreat and blindfold one of them; the one who was not blindfolded would then walk the other through a makeshift obstacle course. The “trust” element came into play at this point, with the blindfolded person having to trust that the non-blindfolded person would not lead them astray, causing them to stumble and fall. The point of the exercise was to illustrate that we are called to trust God, who we cannot “see”, to lead us on a path that would not cause us to stumble and fall.

Jesus, in today’s gospel speaks, in a way, about the blind leading the blind. In interacting with our brothers and sisters, if one is to “lead” the other they must have the “vision” to do so. One cannot *both* be blind, or else they would both stumble and fall. The same is true for the other analogies which Jesus uses in today’s gospel. Jesus ventures a bit into hyperbole with the image of the splinter and the wooden beam (Lk 6:41-42), but His point is still valid: one cannot help another to see if their own vision is so compromised as to the point of blindness themselves. Finally, Jesus moves into the realm of good and evil. Jesus’ image of the good and bad trees and the fruit they produce speak to the fact that if one’s spiritual “roots” are poisoned (by sin), one cannot produce anything but bad fruit. The image of good and evil is furthered by what lay in one’s own heart. In the gospel passage’s conclusion, Jesus tells us that it is “from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks” (Lk 6:45). Jesus tells us that if one’s heart is evil, one speaks evil and if one’s heart is good, it will speak only of good things.

This gospel passage (much like last week’s gospel, which precedes this passage) is less of a condemnation as it is a “cautionary tale”. Today’s gospel serves as a warning to us as to how to live our lives. We must first look within our own heart to examine motives and motivations, and rid ourselves of any malice, evil, or wrong thinking, none of which is how the Lord wants us to live our lives. May we have the courage to look deep within ourselves and “root out” anything that is not of God. May we know that God wishes to only speak that which is beneficial, good, and fruitful. May we have the courage to live in accord with God’s ways and help others to do the same – not lording it over them, but doing so in humility and love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

March Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is March 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.

March Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is March 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.

March Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

March 17 at 6:30 pm at St. John
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!

IMPORTANT: CORI Forms

All collaborative volunteers and staff are required to submit at FY2025 CORI form per Archdiocesan policy. Copies of the form can be found in the sacristies of both churches. If you have any questions, please call the office or see a staff member at Mass.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Lenten Simple Suppers are back!

Last year we did two Soup and Stations nights before the Stations of the Cross. This year we are doing Simple Suppers at 6 pm before **all** the Stations. They are potluck style, so please bring a simple meatless dish (it doesn't have to be soup) to share if you are so inclined. But all are welcome, so bringing something is not a requirement! Hope to see you there— see the last page and the flyers in the church for the schedule.

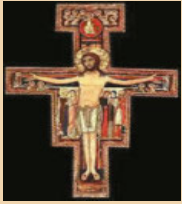
Lenten Mission: Pilgrims of Hope

For the theme of the Jubilee 2025, Pope Francis has chosen the virtue of hope. Why is hope so essential for being a Catholic today? What is hope? How can we grow in hope? Join us for this year's Lenten Mission to find out!

Sunday 3/23: 6:15 pm Mass, 7 pm talk at St. Ann
Monday 3/24: 7 pm Mass followed by talk at St. John

Pope Francis: Hope does not disappoint!





MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In our second reading this weekend, St. Paul speaks to the Corinthians about mortality and immortality. He speaks of the fact that “death is swallowed up in victory” (1 Corinthians 15:54) and that the “sting” of death is taken away by the victory of Jesus over death with His own Resurrection. St. Francis speaks of death in terms of familiarity, as he refers to the moment of our earthly passing as greeting “Sister Death”. In putting it in these terms, one should almost welcome death as one would a loving sibling. However, this begs the question: “Do we?”

Recently, I was reading about St. Francis’ death and I was struck at how the author recounts that “Nothing was to be lacking in the life of the Poverello to make it a perfect masterpiece, and his death was the harmonious culmination of his life.” To be sure, Francis lived out his sainthood here on earth, and everything he did was for the Lord. So, one might wonder, why would his death be any different? If you are like me, we would like to think that one faces death with a certain grace and acceptance, but so often this is not the case. It has been my experience in ministry that many fear death, and many more prolong life to the point of excess by holding on to this life beyond what (perhaps) even God would want us to do. As Catholic Christians, however, we should look at death as just the ending of this life...not the end of all life. When we pass on from this life, Catholic-Christians believe that we have a glorious chapter ahead of us, that of Eternal Life, fullness of life with God, Mary and the Saints, and all of our loved ones gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

This is how Francis approached death. Just as in life, Francis at the time of his death took it as an opportunity to not only unite himself more deeply with Christ but also as an opportunity to teach his followers that death is not to be feared, but embraced – embraced as “Sister Death”. May we have such courage, such joy, when it comes our time to meet the Lord. May we, like Francis, not cease from singing the praises of God at the time of our earthly departure. May we embrace Sister Death when it is our time to go Home to the Lord. May the graces of Eternal Life be ours one day, so that we may join with St. Francis and all the Saints, along with our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

**THE SECOND COLLECTION
THIS WEEK
IS
TO BUILD UP THE SNOW FUND.**

EASTER IS COMING

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU —Confessions
Wednesdays

3/12 @ St. John’s 3/19 @ St. Ann’s
3/26 @ St. John’s 4/2 @ St. Ann’s
4/9 @ St. John’s 4/16 @ St. Ann’s

STATIONS OF THE CROSS — Fridays at 7:00 PM
Each week Simple Suppers will be held at 6:00 PM
before Stations - Pot Luck - Please bring a meatless dish.

3/7 — St. John’s
3/14 — St. Ann’s 3/21 — St. John’s
3/28 — St. Ann’s 4/4 — St. John’s
4/11 — 6:00 Simple Supper with First Church &
Stations at 7:00 at St. Ann’s

HOLY WEEK

4/15 - 7PM — TUESDAY — TENEBRAE — ST. ANN’S


4/17 - 7 PM — MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER
(WITH WASHING OF THE FEET)
ST. JOHN’S.

4/18 - GOOD FRIDAY
9:00 MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. JOHN’S

3:00 PM — SEVEN LAST WORDS WITH EB
CLERGY ASSOC. AT ST. JOHN’S
7:00 PM — GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE — ST.
ANN’S

4/19 - 9:00— MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. ANN’S
8:00 PM — EASTER VIGIL MASS

4/20 EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
8:00 — ST. ANN’S
9:30 — ST. JOHN’S
11:30 — ST. ANN’S

**LENT BEGINS**
MARCH 5, 2025
9:00 AM MASS AT ST. JOHN
4:00 PM — SERVICE OF THE
WORD WITH AHES
AT ST. JOHN
7:00 PM MASS AT ST. ANN

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, Mark Neumeier, Johnny MacDonald & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



Ash Wednesday Ashes

Question:

Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

Answer:

Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "*out of the dust of the ground*" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not.

As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "*remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return*" or "*turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.*" When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities.

©LPi

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

Please help St. Ann's, St. Vincent de Paul Committee help our homeless neighbors.

We are looking for donations of:
Hats, Gloves/mittens, handwarmers, hand sanitizer, cleansing wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, \$5.00 Dunkin donuts gift cards, etc.

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: March 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

March 3 & March 17

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

The Archdiocese of Boston's guidelines for Lent include fasting, abstinence, and generosity.

Fasting:

Catholics between the ages of 15 and 59 are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means eating one full meal and two smaller meals that don't add up to a full meal. Eating between meals is not allowed, but liquids like milk and fruit juice are permitted.

Abstinence:

Catholics over the age of 14 are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Abstinence means not eating meat from chickens, cows, sheep, ham, pigs, or birds.

Generosity:

Donating to local, national, and world programs.
Participating in traditional Lenten devotions.
Practicing self-denial, or "mortification".

Other practices:

Attending daily Mass
Reflecting, serving, and praying

The traditional pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The goal is to develop a closer relationship with God.


The custom of giving up something for Lent is not mandatory, but it can be a salutary custom.

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