



**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

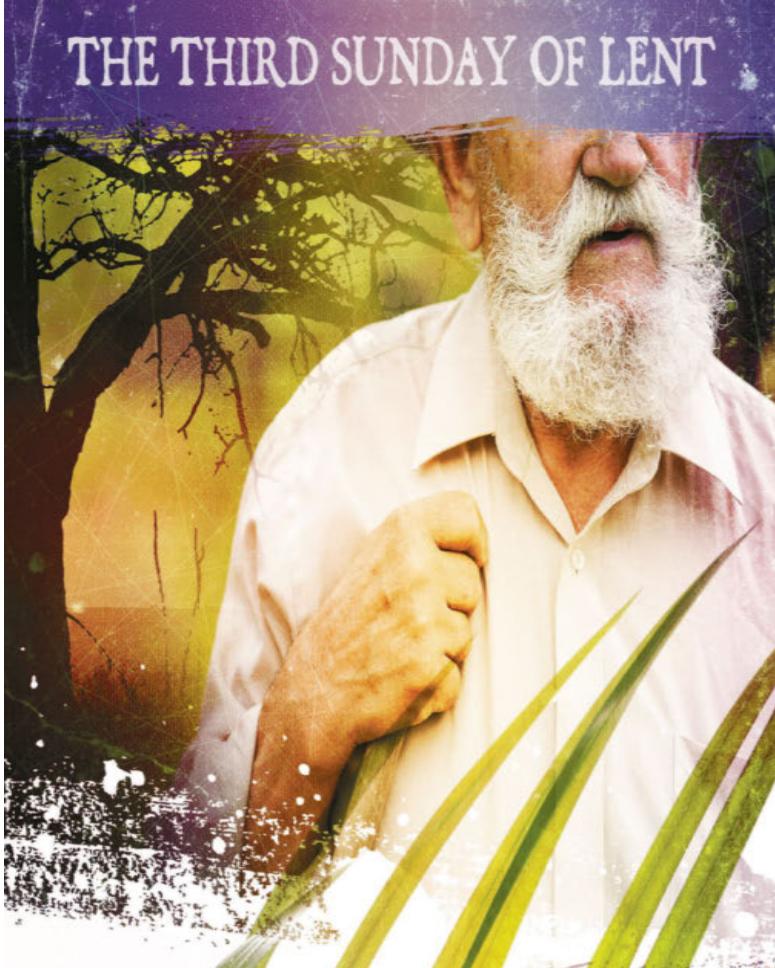
Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022



Special Collection for Ukraine

SAINT JOHN



**THE BARREN
*Fig Tree***

SAINT ANN

**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**

**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

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 - 4PM Monday - Thursday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Church

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. &
6:15 p.m. Life Teen Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

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

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@comcast.net
508-378-4207

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: TBA
donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini
richcesarini@gmail.com

Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

Director of Ministries: Nancy Goggin
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
617-639-4215

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 19, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday March 20, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 - For the people in the Ukraine

Saturday, March 26, 2022

4:00— Manny & Mary Diaz — Memorial

Sunday, March 27, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 - For the people in the Ukraine

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 19, 2022

5:30 — Suzanne Serino — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, March 20, 2022

10:30 - William T. Buckley — 3rd Anniversary

Saturday, March 26, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, March 27, 2022

10:30— For the people in the Ukraine

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory

Mar 1, 2022- Mar 7, 2022

Thank you for the increase in offertory.
It is very needed and much appreciated.

ST ANN

Online	N/A
Mail	\$ 2,060
Mass	\$ 3,539
TOTAL	\$ 5,599

ST JOHN

Online	\$ 1,627
Mail	\$ 3,088
Mass	\$ 2,002
TOTAL	\$ 6,717

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU.

Confessions

6:30—8 PM

March 9 — St. John March 16 — St. Ann
March 23 — St. John March 30 — St. Ann
April 6 — St. John April 13 — St. Ann

LENT/EASTER DATES

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU — CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30—8 PM (ck schedule)

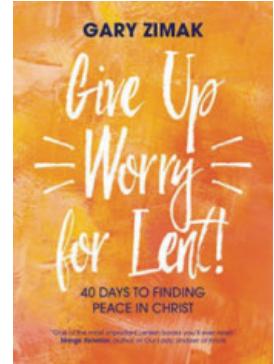
HOLY THURSDAY —ST ANN'S — 7 PM

GOOD FRIDAY:

SEVEN LAST WORDS—ST JOHN 3 PM

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION—7 PM —
ST JOHN'S

EASTER VIGIL — 8 PM — ST ANN'S



My Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was a boy, I can remember spending every Easter Sunday evening glued to the television, watching "The Ten Commandments". It was one of the few times my mother let me stay up past my bedtime on a school night...quite a treat! I can remember the "Technicolor" that was employed (an amazing cinematic feature, long before CGI!), and how it brought the story of the Bible to life! One of the stunning moments was the scene of the "burning bush", the moment in salvation history when Moses was on Mount Horeb and he came upon the bush that was burning, but not consumed. Today's first reading recalls the account of Moses and the Burning Bush.

In our first reading, Moses is tending the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law. The "burning bush" (which, as I say, was burning but not consumed by the flames) catches the attention of Moses. Little wonder it does, between the sight of the bush and the presence of the angel of the Lord; it is a sight which would catch the attention of anyone looking on the scene! In the encounter, Moses hears the voice of God, telling him who He is and what He wants Moses to do. Moses is to lead the Israelites to freedom, freedom from the oppression of Pharaoh. When Moses asks who it is he should say has sent him, God replies "I am who I am" (Exodus 3:14). This is a key moment, for it reveals God as one of the "present moment" (signified by the fact that God uses the present tense). It is the same God who created the world. It is the same God who created us. It is the same God who is with us, here and now.

When we hear of this "God of the present moment", we should take courage and have hope. Our God is one who is with us here and now. We do not have a God who set the world in motion and left us abandoned. We have a God who walks with us in this day and age, in this moment in time, in this Lenten Season (and in ALL Seasons).

May we take comfort in the fact that our God is one who is with us in all time, and for all time, until such time as He calls us home to Himself. May we know that when we call upon God, He does not need to be summoned for He is with us now. May we walk through this Lenten Season knowing that God walks with us now and into the Paschal Mystery of the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Have a (Continued) Blessed Lent,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

I was having a conversation about my journey with the Secular Franciscans, and this person asked me “Does this mean that you are no longer a diocesan priest?” It is one of the more common questions I get asked, and it is born out of both a desire to know more about the Secular Franciscans and an unknowing about what Third Orders are about in the world of the Church. Most religious orders (Dominicans, Jesuits, Franciscans) have some sort of “Third Order”, with the first two “orders” dealing with the ordained or vowed members of that particular religious order. The “Third Order” traditionally deals with the laity or diocesan clergy. In fact, the link between the Third Order and Diocesan clergy has a lot to do with that word... Secular.

Along with being referred to as “diocesan clergy”, another way of addressing the work that I do is by referring to us as “secular clergy”. Simply put, this means that we make “promises” rather than take vows, and we are linked with a particular diocese, rather than a larger religious order (which spans many dioceses throughout the country and world). This does NOT mean that we are not affiliated more with the world than the church! In joining the Secular Franciscan Order, I am on the road to joining the ranks of men and women who have decided that our focus and attention in our prayer and our living out our Baptismal Call has been, and is, influenced by the person, writings, and charism of St. Francis of Assisi.

Years ago, I was standing outside of church after Mass one Sunday, and someone noticed my “monastic alb” (the white garment worn under the chasuble (the outer robe worn at Mass), which has a hood on it; they also noticed my sandals (which I would wear year-round if weather permitted it!). In spying my garb, they inquired of me “Father, are you Dominican (because of my alb) or Franciscan (because of my sandals)?” At the time I joked that “I’m not smart enough to be a Dominican, and not nice enough to be a Franciscan!” Little did I know what God had in store for me! In all seriousness, I believe I’ve always had Franciscan “leanings”. I used to say that while my choice of diocesan priesthood was largely influenced by the diocesan clergy in the parishes in which I grew up, if I ever chose to join a religious order that it would be the Franciscans. So, perhaps God knew that I was going to take this path all along.

As I ready myself for the next steps in my Secular Franciscan journey, I invite you to pray over where God might be calling you to serve His Church. Look at the things that attract you about the Faith, and move in that direction, trusting that it is God’s Holy Spirit leading the way, helping you to walk the path that He is calling you to walk.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



THE DEACON’S COLUMN

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

“Through the words of the Gospel may our sins be wiped away.” These are the words that the deacon, or in his absence, a concelebrating priest, or priest presider says quietly to himself after proclaims the Gospel and reverences it with a kiss. This gesture reveals the power of the Gospel and its proclamation. Hearing and responding to the Good News of Jesus Christ has the power to save souls. During the Mass there are two liturgies that are intrinsically bound to one another, the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. These two “liturgies” form one act of worship.

In his love and mercy, God has chosen to nourish our mind, body, and soul through Christ who is made present in the proclamation of the Gospel and especially in the bread and wine we offer at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Word. As these reflections begin to “break open” the elements of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, I wish to share the description the Church gives in the Roman Missal concerning the Liturgy of the Eucharist

At the Last Supper Christ instituted the Paschal Sacrifice and banquet, by which the Sacrifice of the Cross is continuously made present in the Church whenever the Priest, representing Christ the Lord, carries out what the Lord himself did and handed over to his disciples to be done in his memory. For Christ took the bread and the chalice, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat and drink: this is my Body; this is the chalice of my Blood. Do this in memory of me. Hence, the Church has arranged the entire celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist in parts corresponding to precisely these words and actions of Christ, namely:

- At the Preparation of the Gifts, bread and wine with water are brought to the altar, the same elements, which is to say, which Christ took into his hands.*
- In the Eucharistic Prayer, thanks is given to God for the whole work of salvation, and the offerings become the Body and Blood of Christ.*
- Through the fraction and through Communion, the faithful, though many, receive from the one bread the Lord’s Body and from the one chalice the Lord’s Blood in the same way that the Apostles received them from the hands of Christ himself. (GIRM (3rd Edition), #72)*

It is my hope that by breaking out these elements of the Liturgy of the Eucharist we will be able to unite ourselves more closely to the eternal offering of Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls. Through an increased awareness of our participation in these sacred ministries may the body and blood of Jesus nourish us as we strive to share with others the one we have received around the altar of Christ’s sacrifice.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Stoking the Lenten Fire

I think we all can acknowledge that there's a certain fatigue that comes over us all as we near the end of the Lenten season. Next week is Laetare Sunday, and I find that as soon as those pink vestments start coming out of storage, our collective motivation begins to wane.

I get that. Maybe you're fatigued — I am, too. Maybe you're doing well in your resolutions and devotions but you're in danger of coasting. Or maybe, like many of us this year or in past years, you don't feel that you have even really begun your Lenten journey.

Either way, chances are that the fire that was in your belly on Ash Wednesday is burning a bit low. All fires eventually do, once they consume whatever fuels them. So here we would do well to remember what fuels our Lenten fire.

Sometimes we make resolutions that have the appearance of being spiritual, but also have an earthly motive. We give up chocolate hoping to lose weight. We stop gossiping so our friends may like us more. There is nothing wrong with these sacrifices — just with their motivations.

As Moses removes his sandals to approach the burning bush, he sees that the fire burns brightly, strongly — but does not consume. It is propelled by something inexhaustible, something which is not of this world.

Is your Lenten fire fueled by God? Are you daily surrendering yourself to the same voice that boomed from the bush in Genesis — the voice that commanded the Israelites to do what seemed like the impossible?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Friday, March 25, 2022

Saint Ann's Finance Council will be meeting on March 24, 2022 at Saint John's. at 7:00 and St. John's Finance Council will meet at St. John's at 8:00. Pastoral Council will meet Monday< March 21 at St. John's at 7 PM.



A Journey of Prayer With Pope John Paul II For Lent and Easter Season

You are invited

By the Together in Christ Collaborative of St John's and St Ann's to join us for a time of weekly prayer and reflection

There are 2 ways to participate

1. You can participate at home

Each week I will email a new theme to reflect on. You may do this throughout the week, anytime that works with your schedule.

2. You may participate in an in-person prayer and share group

Prayer and Share groups will meet every Tuesday at St John's Hall
Starting March 8th, 7:00pm-8:00pm
All materials will be provided. There is no cost to participate in this journey of prayer

Please type the following link in your browser for more information on the program

<https://youtu.be/UXjG4PQu808>

Please email Nancy Goggin to sign up at: Directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort, Frank McCarthy, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague & 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

Winter dates and hours will be in effect from **November thru April**, pantry days will be the **first Monday** of the month ,except for holidays, from 1pm to 4pm., and the **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30 am

THE FOOD PANTRY

In today's Gospel Jesus is quite clear in his message: "bear fruit or be cut down." This Lent we are called to cultivate and fertilize our spiritual lives through prayer-fasting and almsgiving.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime, or quarter is multiplied by the coins placed by others in the St.Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

**Monday, March 7, 2022 1—4 PM
Saturday, March 19, — 10—11:30 AM**

**Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc
are always great additions to the shelves.**

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. 508-378-3760

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

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.



**SAINT VINCENT de PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com
P O Box 474
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.



HELP!!!!

**SNOW REMOVAL IS
EXPENSIVE
EVERY PENNY COUNTS.**

**PLEASE INCREASE YOUR OFFERTORY TO
COVER THE EXTRA COSTS
INCURRED
BY THE RECENT SNOW STORMS.**

The Cardinal is asking for a second collection this weekend to provide help for the people in the Ukraine.

"Due to the unprecedented needs brought about by the devastation of the attacks on Ukraine and the immigration of millions of victims fleeing the ravages of the war, I am authorizing a special collection to be taken up at all parishes on the weekend of March 19 and 20. The proceeds from the collection will be sent to Catholic Relief Services, the overseas relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, and to the Vatican agency for outreach to the Churches in Eastern Europe."

Please pray for the people of the Ukraine and of the world!

Daughters of St. Paul <newsletter@paulinemedia.com>

Hello Friend,

"Pray and never lose heart" (cf. Luke 18:1).

For some of us, these words of the Gospel may feel unrealistic, especially when news as alarming as the situation in eastern Europe breaks upon us. But when Pope Francis addressed the church and the world at the end of his General Audience this past Wednesday, he urged us to pray with the faith of those who believe in "a God of peace, and not of war."

"Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting," Pope Francis reminded us. As violence, fear, and anxiety grip the hearts of our brothers and sisters around the world, especially in Ukraine and Russia, we are called to take up "God's weapons" of prayer and fasting in solidarity with them. As we do, we live our belief that whenever and wherever Christians come together in prayer, it is Jesus himself who prays in us, with us, and for us.

Yesterday, Sr. Anne and Sr. Orianne Pietra René led a Divine Mercy Chaplet on Instagram Live for peace, conversion, and the intentions of all affected by this tragedy. Today, we invite you to join us.

Pray the Chaplet

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