

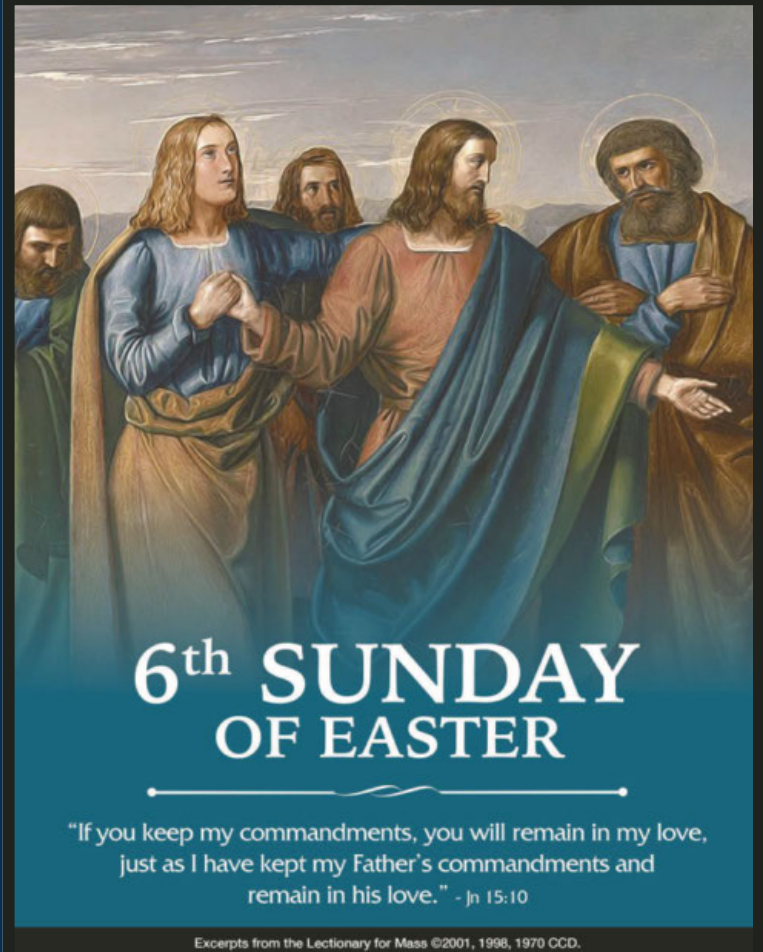
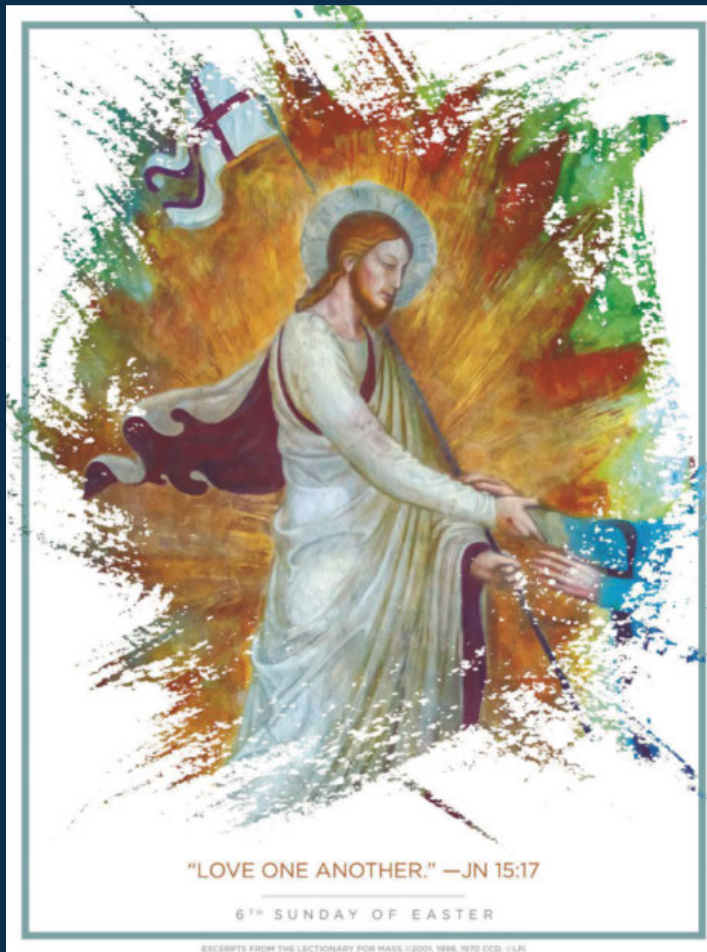


Saturday, 4:00 PM  
 Sunday, 9:30 AM  
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ  
 Collaborative  
 Saint Ann & Saint John  
 May 5, 2024  
 Sixth Sunday of Easter  
 (Mass Schedule changes  
 May 25 & 26)*



Sunday, 8:00 AM  
 Sunday, 11:30 AM



### **Church of Saint Ann**

**103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater  
 02379  
 508-586-4880**

**E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
 Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
 Facebook: St. Ann-WB**

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

### **Saint John the Evangelist**

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater  
 02333  
 Office -103 N. Main Street,  
 West Bridgewater  
 508-378-4207**

**E-MAIL: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.stjohnneb.org](http://www.stjohnneb.org)**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
 Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —  
 Paul Ring OFS**

# 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**

## EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### **St Ann's**

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday: 9:30 a.m.**

**6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass**  
**w/ Drive up option**

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

### **St John's**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.**

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

**Holiday Schedules will vary**

## 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 private and 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 ANN'S STAFF

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

## SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad  
stjohnnebridge@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  
**Assistant Music Director:** Matt Cunningham

**Director of Ministries:** Matthew Brady  
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com  
774-533-2002





\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, May 4, 2024**

4:00 - Rev. Edward McDonagh — 1st Anniversry

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

9:30 - Cheryl Barends — Memorial

6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

**Thursday, May 9, 2024**

9:00 - Carolyn A. Ritucci — Memorial

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

4:00 - John L. & Geraldine M. Sullivan & Family  
Memorial

**Sunday, May 12, 2024**

9:30 - David Asiaf — 1st Anniversary

6:15—All Mothers of the Collaborative

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

8:00 - Lawrence Ribeiro — 41st Anniversary

11:30 - Robert DiFazio — 4th Anniversary

**Friday, May 10, 2024**

9:00 - Raffel Wood — 14th Anniversary

**Sunday, May 12, 2024**

8:00 - All Mothers of the Collaborative

11:30 - All Mothers of the Collaborative

## THE MASS SCHEDULE WILL BE CHANGING

**THE WEEKEND OF  
May 25 - 26**

### ST ANN'S MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday, — 8:00 & 11:30 AM  
6:15 PM**

### ST JOHN'S MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday — 4:00 PM  
Sunday — 9:30 AM**

**This schedule will be in effect  
for 1 year.**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In the movie “Hacksaw Ridge”, US Army Medic Desmond Doss saved 75 men in World War II...all without use of a weapon, as he was a pacifist and conscientious objector. He did so by physically carrying these men to safety, risking his own life. His heroic actions led him to be the first (and only) conscientious objector to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, America’s highest award for bravery.

In today’s gospel, Jesus tells us that “no one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (Jn 15:13). I think that Cpl. Doss certainly fulfilled this mandate with his actions in wartime Japan. This mandate, however, goes beyond the battlefield, beyond combat situations. I believe that Jesus is calling us, in our everyday lives, to put others first and ourselves second. A person can “lay down one’s life” (ibid.) by reaching out to one in need and helping them in a situation that they cannot accomplish themselves. In doing this, we love one another as Christ has loved us. It is the love of Christ, placed on one’s heart, which compels someone like Cpl. Doss to act in the manner that he did. It is that same love that compels us to reach out to a brother or sister in need.

In 1 John (our second reading), we are called to love one another because “love is of God” (1 Jn 4:7). The essence and existence of God is love. The pure love of God is what we are called to share with one another. Often times, this love is subverted and distorted by the world, for the world has a way of taking that which is pure and using for its own purposes, whether pure or not. When it is pure, God’s love is extended into the world; when it is impure or corrupted God’s love is suppressed and blocked.

We are called to love our brothers and sisters with the love with which God has loved us first. May we have the courage to love with the purity that God has placed on our hearts. May we know this love, share this love, and see that this love is brought to fruition in word and in deed.

Have a (Continued) Blessed Easter,

Fr. Paul



*Saint John*



*The Flower Memorial  
Including wine, hosts and Sanct. Lamp  
this week is donated by  
Peggy DiFazio*

*In loving memory of her husband  
Robert DiFazio*

## MINISTRY NEWS

### Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at [Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

#### **May Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries**

May 6 at 6:30 pm St. John

Every month we make sandwiches to be distributed to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge by Capuchin Mobile Ministries. This is a great service project that anyone can do! All are welcome, especially those in need of service hours.

#### **Music at the 6:15 Mass**

As faith formation ends for the summer, we will no longer have our monthly Teen Mass, but we will continue to have music monthly at the 6:15 Mass on the following dates:

May 19<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost)  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> (Corpus Christi)  
July 14<sup>th</sup>

The Teen Mass will resume in the fall.

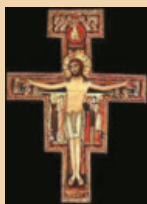
#### **First Communion**

Congratulations to the 21 children who will receive their First Communion at the 4 pm and 11:30 Masses this weekend! We are very proud of you! Our remaining children will receive their sacrament on May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Save the Date!!  
Outdoor Mass and  
Barbecue  
Sunday August 18  
St John's  
Time TBD  
Stay tuned for more  
details**





## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In today's gospel, Jesus speaks of His desire for His disciples that "my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete" (John 15:11). This concept of joy may be elusive to many but it was something that was not only desirable but attainable.

And what is this "perfect joy" that is attainable in the mind of Francis? Well, who better to explain this concept than the man, himself:

On a cold winter's day, Saint Francis walked with Brother Leo from Perugia to the Portiuncula. Because of their poverty, they suffered much in the cold. At one point, Saint Francis said to Brother Leo: "If God desired that the Friars Minor should serve as a great example of holiness to all people in all lands, please write down that this would not be perfect joy." At some point later in their journey, Saint Francis said to Brother Leo: "If the Friars Minor could make the lame walk; if we could straighten the crooked; if we could chase away demons; if we could give sight to the blind and speech to the dumb; and even if we could raise the dead after four days, please write down and note carefully that this would not be perfect joy."

Soon after, Saint Francis said to Brother Leo: "If the Friars Minor could speak every language; if they knew everything about science; if they could explain all the scriptures; if they could predict the future and reveal the secrets of every soul, please write down and note carefully that this would not be perfect joy." After a few more steps, Saint Francis cried: "Brother Leo, little one of God! If the Friars Minor could sing like angels; if they could explain the movements of the stars; if they knew everything about all animals, birds, fish, plants, stones, trees, and all men, please write down and note carefully that this would not be perfect joy." Finally, Saint Francis cried again: "Brother Leo, if the Friars Minor could preach and thus convert every person to faith in Christ, please write down and note carefully that even this is not perfect joy."

When this manner of discourse lasted for several miles, Brother Leo, who had been thinking about these sayings, asked: "Father Francis, I pray that you will teach me about perfect joy." Saint Francis answered: "If we arrive at the Portiuncula and if we are drenched with rain and trembling with cold, covered in mud and exhausted from hunger; and if we knock on the convent gate; and if we are not recognized by the porter; and if he tells us that we are impostors who seek to deceive the world and steal from the poor; and if he refuses to open the gate; and if he leaves us outside, exposed to the rain and snow, suffering from cold and hunger; then if we embrace the injustice, cruelty, and contempt with patience, without complaining; and if we believe in faith, love, and humility that the porter knew us but was told by God to reject us, then, my dear Brother Leo, please write down and note carefully that this also is perfect joy!"

Saint Francis then said: "Brother Leo, if we knock again and if the porter drives us away with curses and blows; and if he accuses us of robbery and other crimes; and if we embrace this with patience without complaining; and if we believe in faith, love, and humility that the porter knew us but was told by God to reject us again, then, my dear Brother Leo, please write down and note carefully that this is finally perfect joy!" Saint Francis said once more: "If urged by cold and hunger, we knock again; if we call again to the porter; if we plead to him with many tears to open the gate and to give us shelter out of love for God; and if he returns more angry

## THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR REPAIRS

### NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR REPAIRS

than ever; and if he calls us annoying rascals and beats us with a knotted stick; and if he throws us to the ground, rolls us in the snow, and beats us again with the knotted stick; and if we bear these injuries with patience without complaining; and if we think upon the sufferings of our Blessed Crucified Lord, then, most beloved Brother Leo, please write down and note carefully that this, finally, is perfect joy!"

Finally, Saint Francis said: "Brother Leo, please listen to me. Above all gifts of the Holy Spirit, that Christ Jesus gives to his friends is the grace to overcome oneself, to accept willingly, out of love for Him, all contempt, all discomfort, all injury, and all suffering. In this and all other gifts, we ourselves should not boast because all things are gifts from God. Remember the words of Saint Paul: 'What do you have that you did not receive from God? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift (1 Corinthians 4:7)?' But in the cross of afflictions and suffering, we truly can glory because as Saint Paul says again: 'May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world (Galatians 6:14).' Amen."

This, my friends, is "perfect joy"...to share in the sufferings of Christ and to be one with Him. May we one day achieve this "perfect joy"!

Pax et Bonum,

**Catholic Faith**

©LPi

### Question:

My neighbor is just beginning to explore the Catholic faith but was raised agnostic. I grew up believing in God, praying, and attending Mass. How does one start from scratch as an adult to develop a relationship with God?

### Answer:

Start on a personal level! How did you and your neighbor become friends? How did you begin to discuss such a personal topic as faith? Communication, spending time together, and getting to know each other are essential to forming the bonds of a relationship. Personal prayer is essential to our relationship with God. We can't be close to someone we don't know! Invite your friend to explore the stories of Jesus in the Bible. Introduce them to the lives of the saints, especially ones you think they might be interested in.

Your neighbor might also have questions about the Catholic faith that you don't know how to answer. If your friend hasn't yet enrolled in RCIA classes, invite them to Mass at your parish. Introduce your friend to the faith formation director to make a connection. Personal support can be helpful as well, especially if few of your neighbor's current friends are practicing their faith. Connect your neighbor to other people in your parish living their faith well. The good examples of other faithful people could help your neighbor to feel welcomed and supported. Our Church is vibrant and alive!



## 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, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & 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 Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Eileen Doherty, Louise Ferrari, Dan, Christine Staples, Candice Frabetti & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



### *Prayer of Thanksgiving for all involved in child protection efforts*

Dear Lord,  
We pray that all children will be held safe in Your love and protection.

Grant us the wisdom and strength to fulfill our responsibility to always shield them from harm, and continue to grace us with caring advocates in all of our parishes, schools and agencies who implement our child safety programs.

May parents and families know that they do not walk alone as they guide their children through life and that, as promised, You are with them always.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, we pray that all children will realize the fullness of their dignity as children of God. Amen

West Bridgewater Food Pantry  
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1  
West Bridgewater

**WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday each month**

**TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM**  
**peanut butter, Progresso soups, pasta sauce & brownie mix are needed.**

**Cash donations also accepted**

**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 SDVP 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: May 14th @ 6:30 p.m. St. Ann's Hall.**

**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

### **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**

***Monday, May 6, 2024***  
***Monday, May 20, 2024***

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.**

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier

**The Together in Christ Collaborative is sponsoring a Baby Shower!**

"Cribs" will be set up on **April 6** at both St Ann and St John Parish. Donations will be accepted through **May 5!**

Donations of **NEW UNWRAPPED** layette items, toiletries (no powder please), and diapers are needed.

Items from the Parish Baby Shower helps mothers make life-affirming decisions for their unborn children and supports clients of Pregnancy Help, the crisis pregnancy center of the Archdiocese of Boston. Monetary donations to Pregnancy Help or the Fund for the Unborn are also gratefully accepted.

Please contact Missy Schrader at 508-725-2177 or [missyschrader73@gmail.com](mailto:missyschrader73@gmail.com) with any questions!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!**

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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